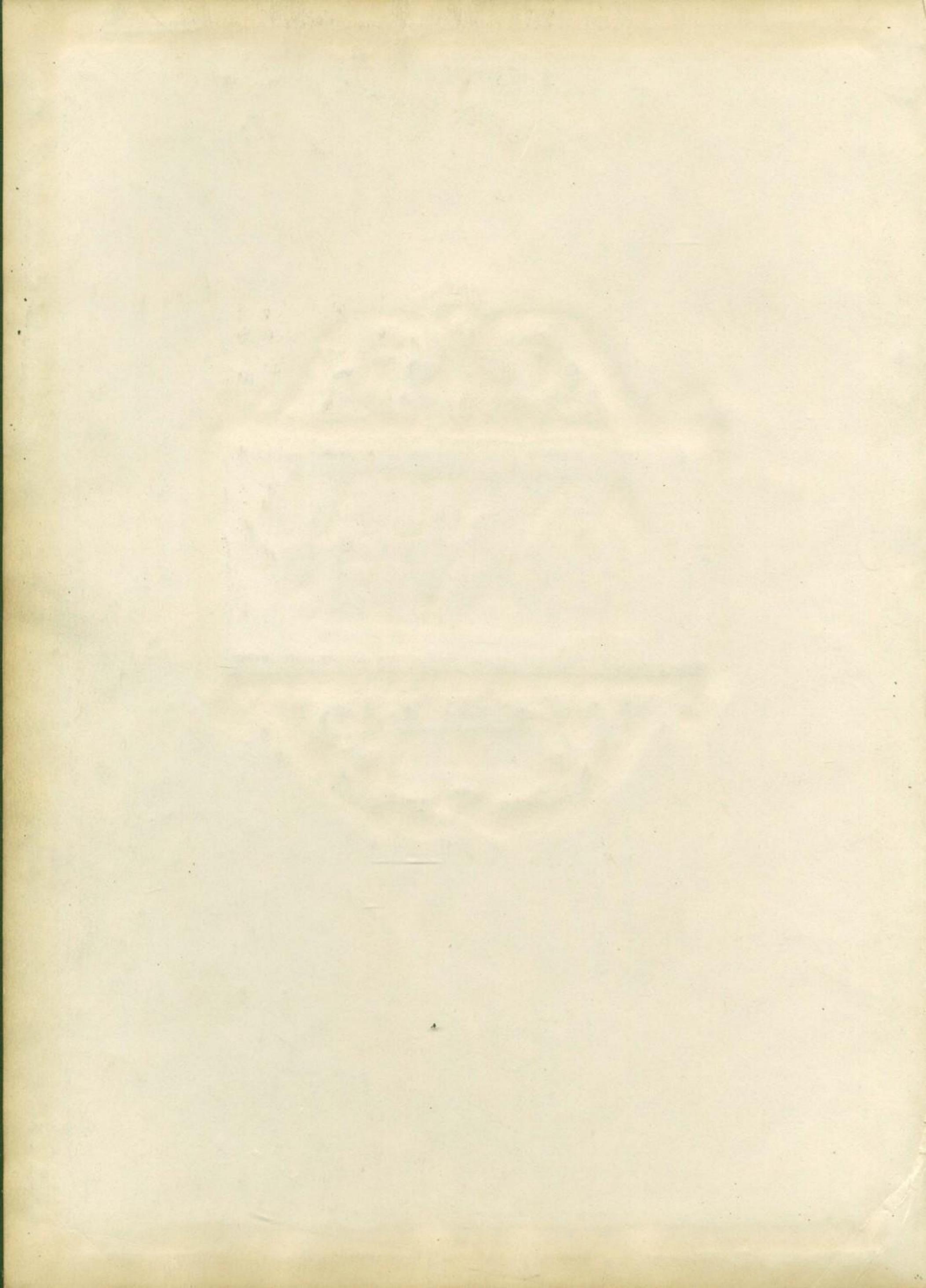
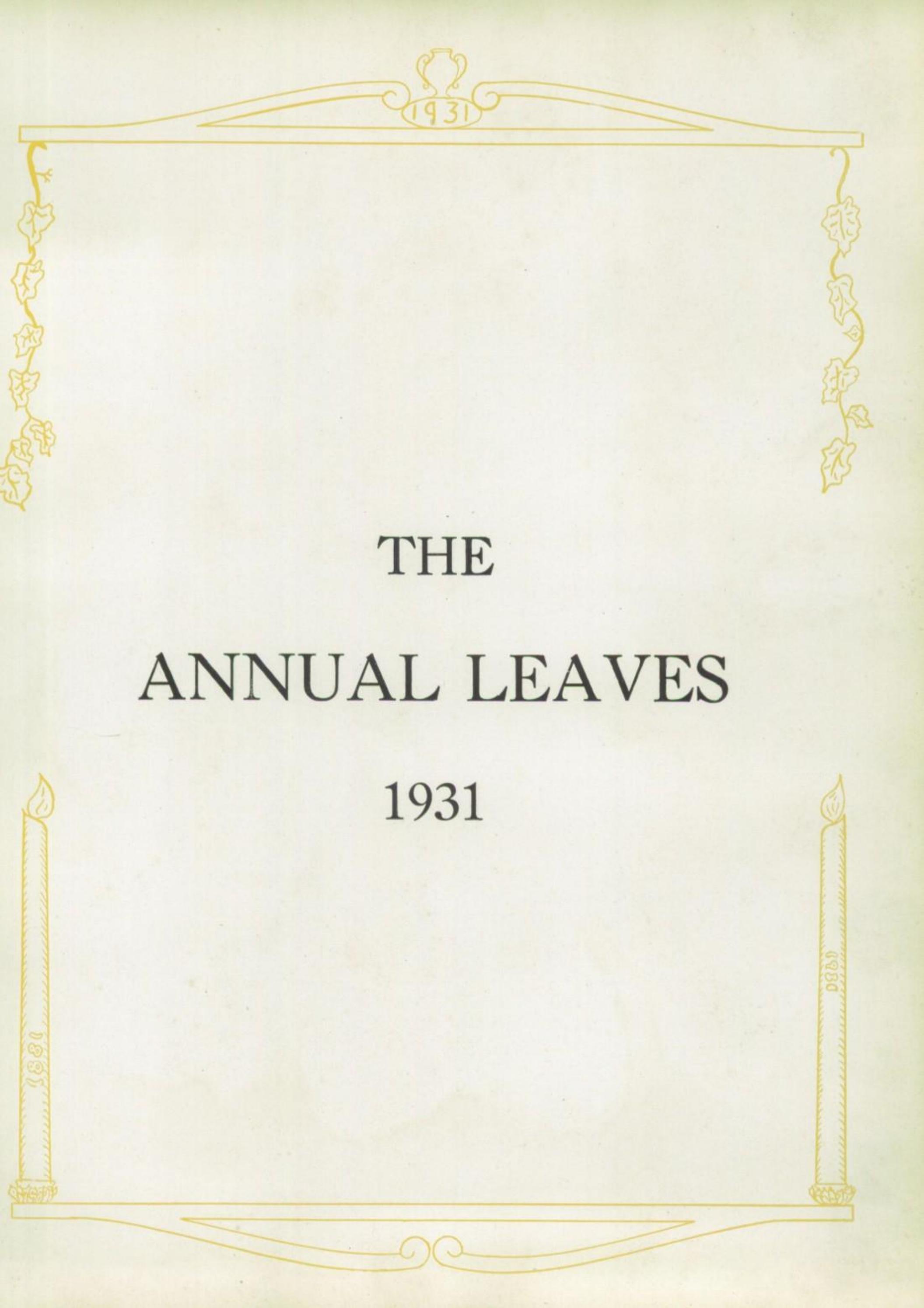


ANNUAL
LEAVES

1931







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THE
ANNUAL LEAVES

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Photographer

The Livingston Studios

Toledo, Ohio

Engraver

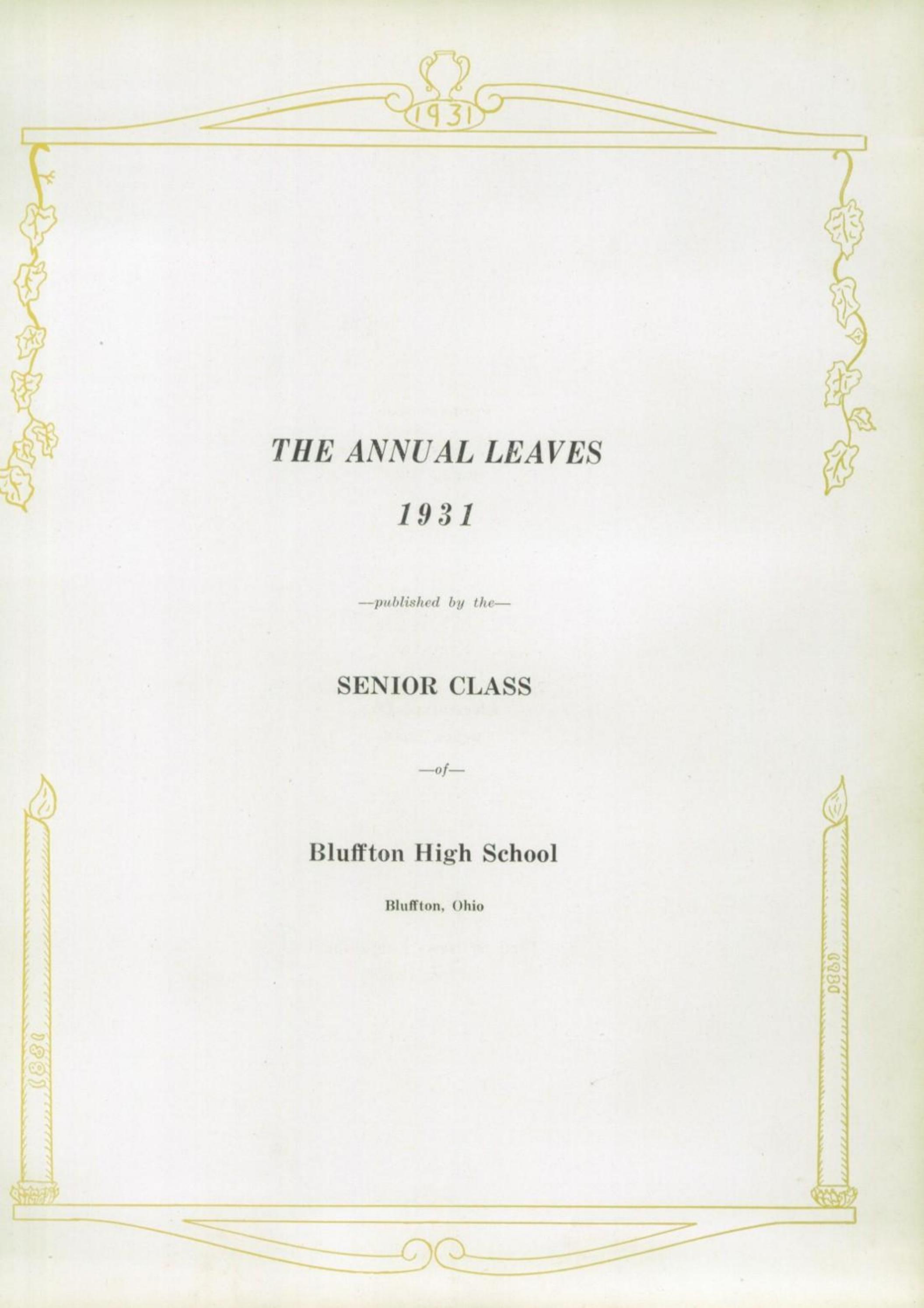
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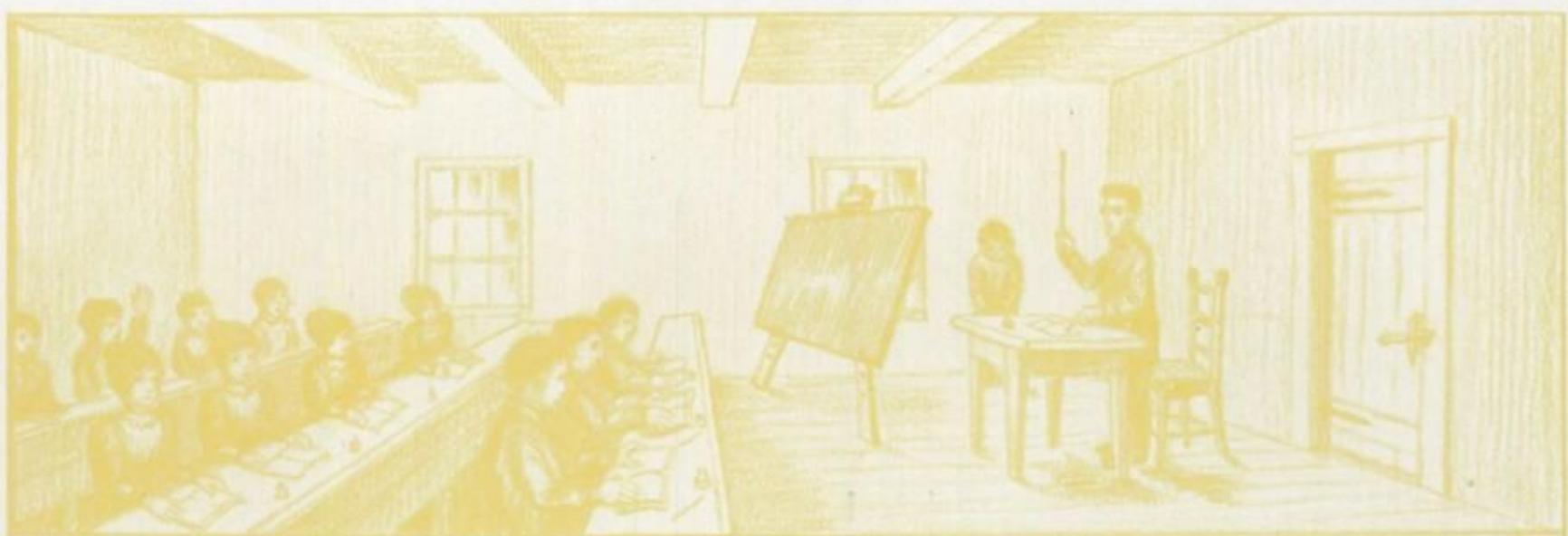
SENIOR CLASS

—of—

Bluffton High School

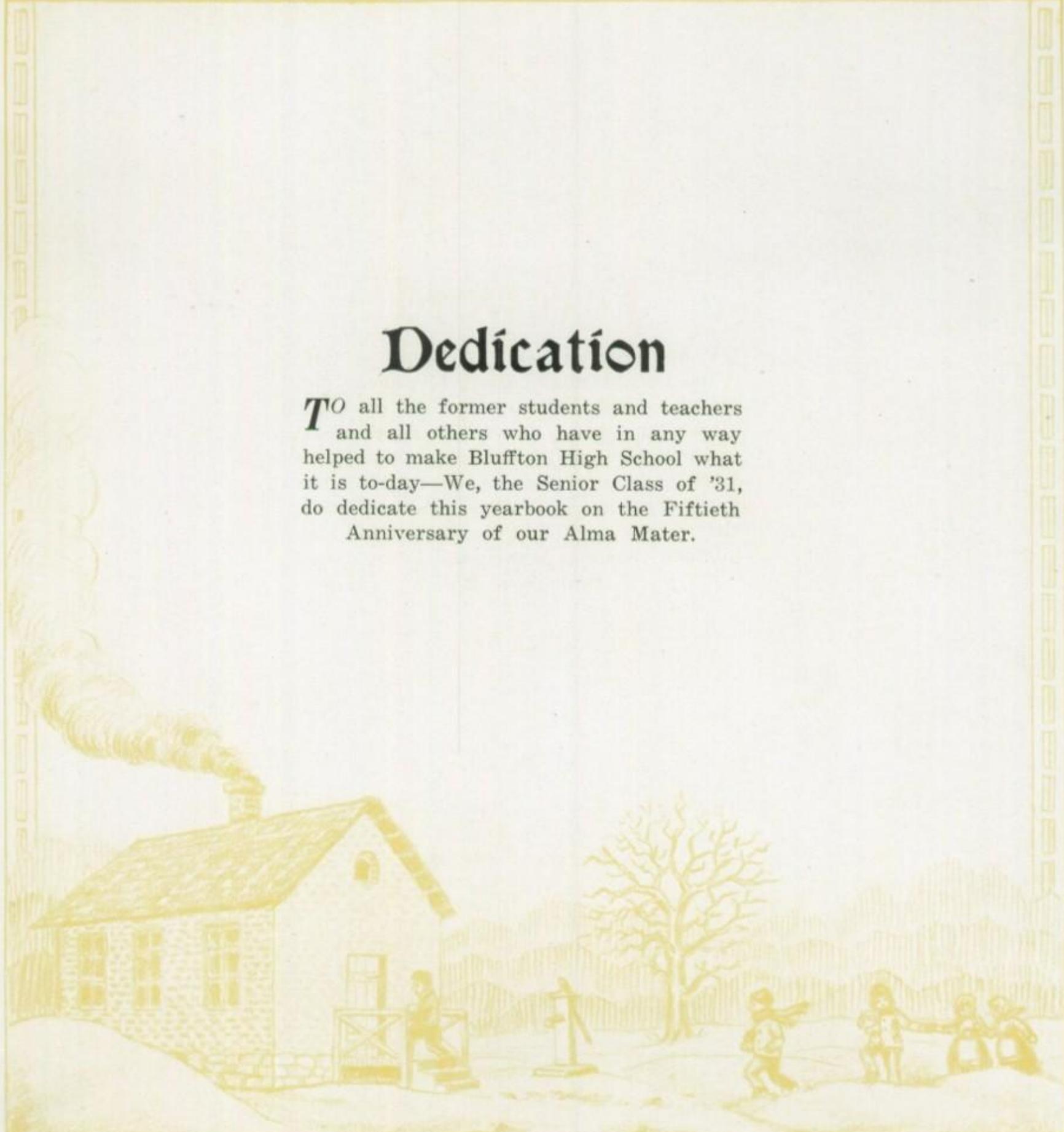
Bluffton, Ohio

1931



Dedication

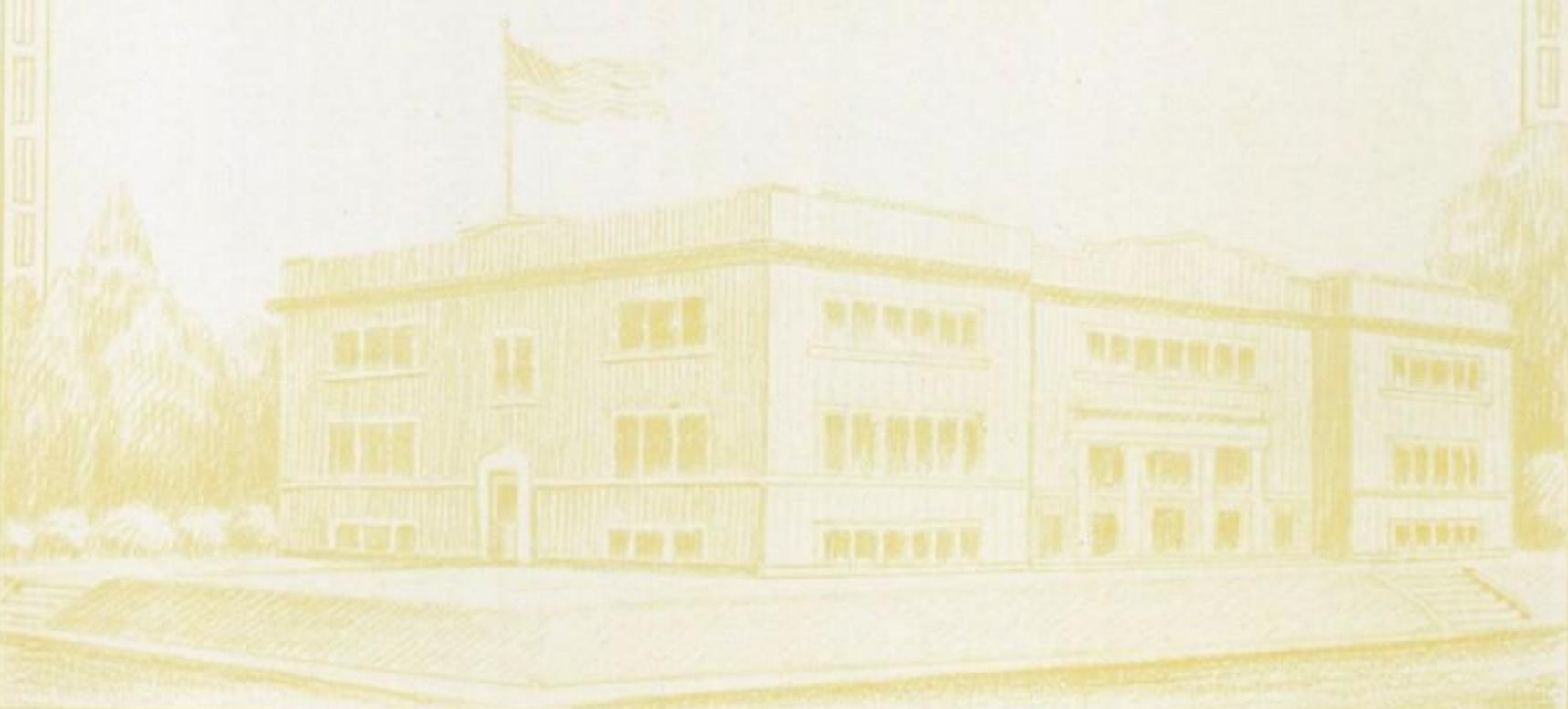
TO all the former students and teachers and all others who have in any way helped to make Bluffton High School what it is to-day—We, the Senior Class of '31, do dedicate this yearbook on the Fiftieth Anniversary of our Alma Mater.



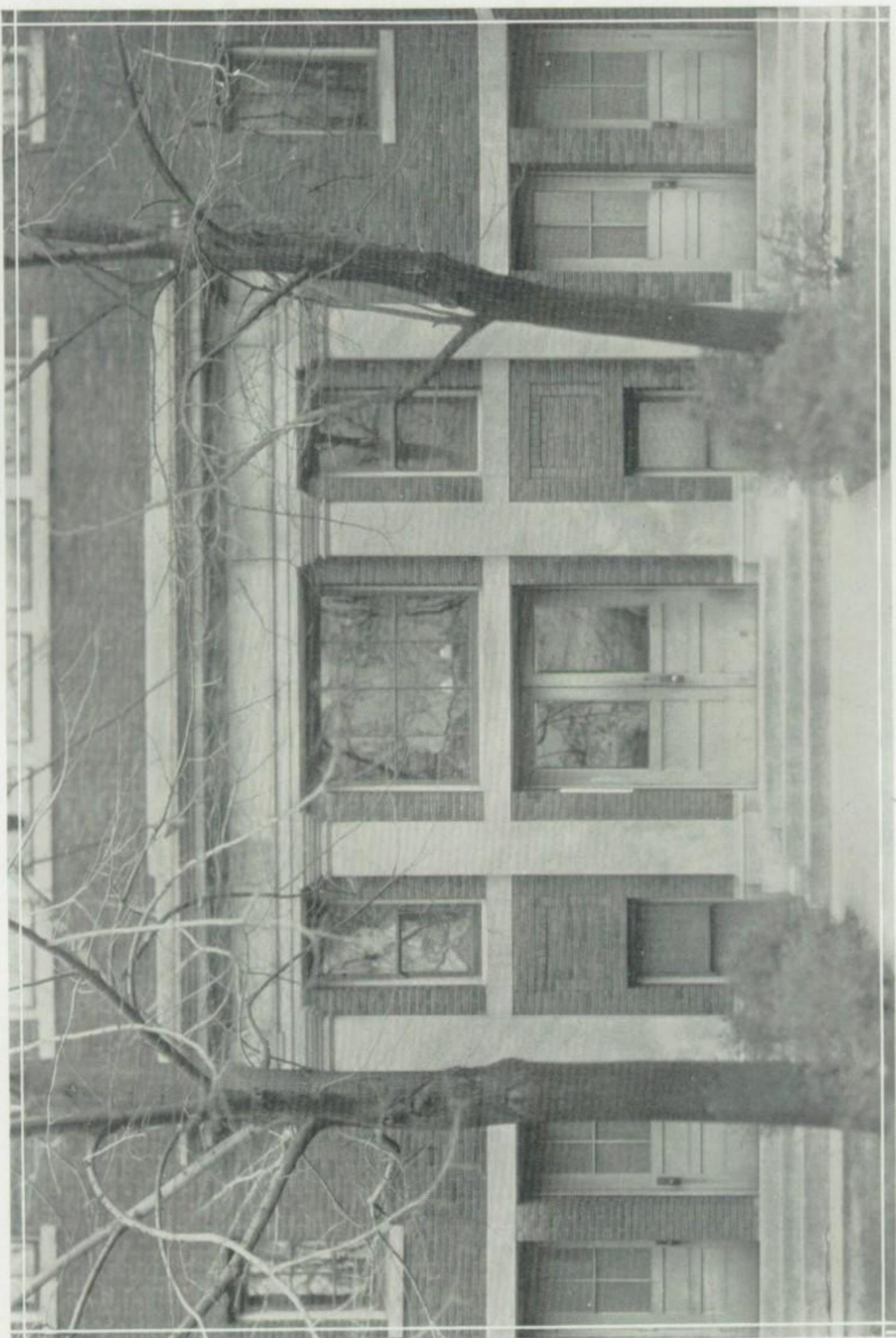


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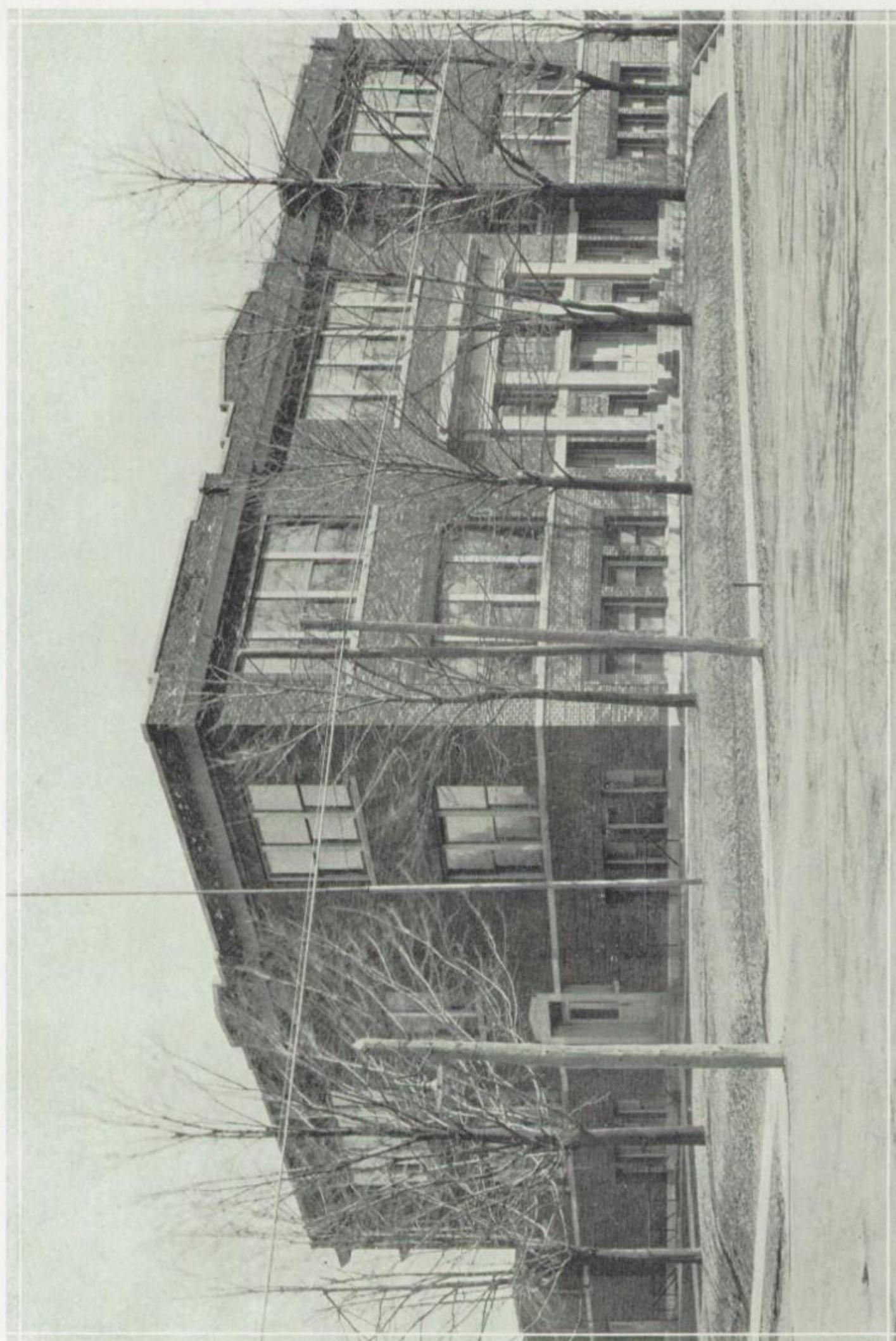
IT has been our wish in compiling this, the 1931 Annual Leaves, to prepare for ourselves and the associates of our Alma Mater, the happy days which we have spent together in Bluffton High School and to fittingly review the happenings of the past fifty years of Bluffton progress. May the scenes which follow hold for one and all fond memories which shall be cherished throughout life.



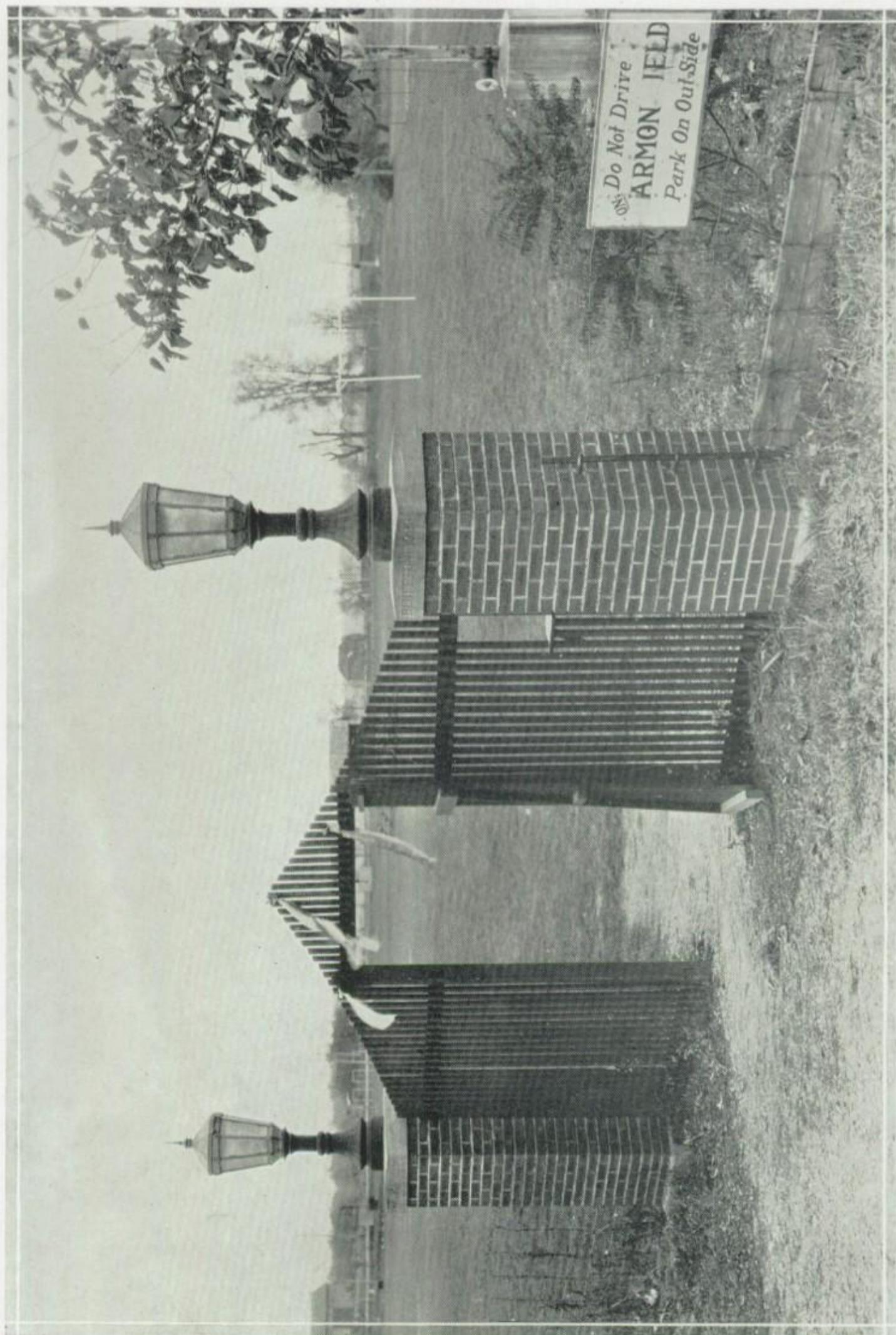
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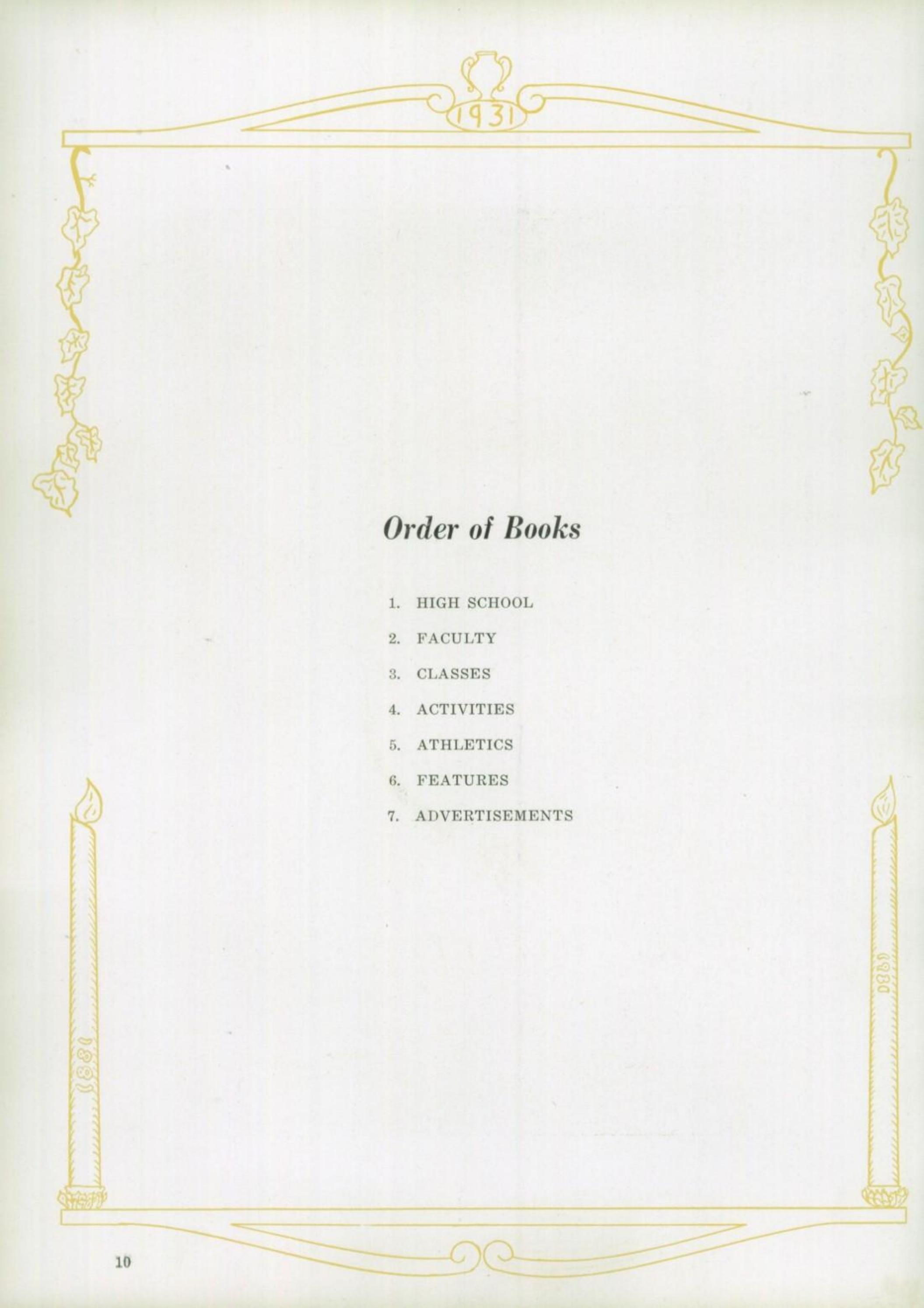
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Order of Books

1. HIGH SCHOOL
2. FACULTY
3. CLASSES
4. ACTIVITIES
5. ATHLETICS
6. FEATURES
7. ADVERTISEMENTS

1931



FACULTY

1931



L. T. Greding Elmer Lauby	William Hilty A. D. Hall
Noah Basinger	Hiram Locher

Bluffton-Richland Board of Education

We, the students of Bluffton High School, are grateful to the Board of Education for their sincere efforts and their hearty enthusiasm in furthering the passage of the Bond Issue. In this connection special tribute should be given to Mr. Longsdorf and the Citizens' Committee for their untiring leadership in the efforts toward a better institution.

We feel that it has been due to the school boards of the past that Bluffton High School has been recognized as a member of the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges on whose approved list we have been since 1912. Especially grateful are we to the first Board and those others who made possible the additions the school has received since 1881. We sincerely hope that the directors of the future will strive as conscientiously to maintain this as one of the outstanding schools of the state. Since the people of this community have never refused any suggestion that meant better education, we are confident that the children in years to come will obtain the benefits of a new and wider educational experience. Undoubtedly Bluffton will contribute in the future, as in the past and present, an enviable group of this country's influential citizens and leaders.

Superintendent's Message

"In this golden anniversary year, it is peculiarly fitting to reflect on the educational history made and marked by the passing of fifty mileposts of educational progress in Bluffton. During this time eleven hundred and sixty-six students have been granted diplomas and gone forth to contribute to that progress. To those who have thus set the pace we offer our sincere congratulations.

What the next fifty years may bring forth we may only speculate. However, as attendance has increased, curriculum expanded and enriched, and school plant facilities enlarged, so now it takes but a glance at the blue prints to show that this year will see the erection of an addition that will provide a high school plant and facilities second to none anywhere. With these enlarged facilities must ever go the "Bluffton Spirit." Together let us carry on in the interests of righteousness and truth."

A. J. B. Longsdorf.

A. J. B. LONGSDORF, Ph. B., A. M.—Mr. Longsdorf came to Bluffton in the fall of 1925 to take up his duties as superintendent of B. H. S. After receiving his Ph. B. from Wooster in 1912, he served as principal of Cygnet High School from 1918-1925. In 1921 he received his A. M. from Columbia University.



SUPERINTENDENTS OF BLUFFTON SCHOOLS

S. C. Patterson, 1879-1887; B. F. Biery, 1894-1900; U. M. Shappell, 1887-1894;
E. C. Akerman, 1900-1906; C. A. Arganbright, 1906-1914; C. C. Nardin, 1914-1920;
C. Edward Bender, 1920-1925; A. J. B. Longsdorf, 1925—.



GERHARD BUHLER, A. B.—Mr. Buhler has been a member of the High School faculty since 1924, serving as assistant superintendent from 1924-1927, and as principal from 1927 to the present time. Beside his duties as principal he also teaches chemistry and physics. He received his A. B. from Bluffton College in 1922 and attended Witmarsum Theological Seminary in 1922-1923. Before taking up his duties in B. H. S. he served as an instructor in Every High School in Iowa. During the summer of 1930 he attended the University of Cincinnati.

RUTH L. ENDERS, A. B.—Miss Enders has been instructor of Junior and Senior English since coming to Bluffton two years ago (in 1929). She received her A. B. from Defiance College in 1925. From 1926 to 1928 she acted as instructor in Farmer High School and in 1928-'29 taught in Antwerp High School. During the summers of 1928 and 1929 she attended Defiance College and during the summer of 1930, Ohio State University.

ANDREW J. ROBESON, B. S.—Mr. Robeson has been a member of Bluffton High faculty since 1929. He serves as instructor in biology and general science and as the boys' athletic coach. After receiving his B. S. degree from Ohio University in 1928, he acted as instructor in biology and coach at Medina High School until coming to Bluffton.

B. RUTH LAPP, A. B.—Miss Lapp has been instructor of Freshman and Sophomore English in B. H. S. since 1926. In 1924 she attended Iowa State Teacher's College and during the following year acted as instructor in Junior High, North English, Iowa. She received her A. B. from Bluffton College in 1926 and has since taught in B. H. S. During the summer of 1930 she attended the University of Chicago.

HELEN BOSS, A. B.—This is Miss Boss' first year as a member of the faculty of Bluffton High. She acts as instructor in Latin and French. After receiving her A. B. from Denison in 1926, she served as instructor at Elida High School until coming to B. H. S. at the beginning of the year. During the summer of 1929-1930 she attended school at Ohio State University.

SIDNEY STETTLER, A. B.—Since 1924 Mr. Stettler has been the mathematics instructor of Bluffton High School. Beside his duties as a teacher he has served as athletic manager and tennis coach. He received his A. B. from Bluffton College in 1923 and then acted as instructor in North Baltimore until coming to Bluffton. During the summer of 1926-1927 he attended school at Ohio State University.

MARGARET KIMMEL, A. B.—Miss Kimmel has served as instructor of social sciences in Bluffton High since 1928. Beside her social science courses, this year she has also taught business arithmetic and a class in algebra. She came to Bluffton High after receiving her A. B. from Bluffton College in 1928.



SIDNEY HAUENSTEIN, Ph. C.—Mr. Hauenstein has been the conductor of the high school band and orchestra since 1920. He received his Ph. C. from the University of Michigan in 1907. During the summer of 1921 he attended the Chicago Musical College and during the summers of 1926-27 was conductor of orchestral classes at E. Tennessee State Teachers College. Since 1911 he has been the conductor of the Bluffton band and orchestra and an instructor in music.

DARLIE G. STUCKEY, A. B.—Miss Stuckey has been a teacher in Bluffton High since 1927. She acts as instructor in home economics and as girls athletic coach. After receiving her A. B. from Wittenberg in 1924 she served as instructor and girls coach in Mt. Cory High School, until coming to Bluffton in the fall of 1927.

EDGAR R. JONES, A. B.—Mr. Jones has been a member of Bluffton High faculty since 1927. In the fall of 1927, after receiving his A. B. from Bowling Green State Normal in the spring of 1927, he came to Bluffton as instructor in manual arts and mechanical drawing.

J. NORMAN KING, A. B.—Rev. King first entered the Bluffton High School faculty in the 1927-'28 term as a teacher of social sciences. Prior to that he had received his A. B. degree from Alma College and had taken advanced courses at Princeton and Bluffton College. Then from 1921 to 1926 he served as professor of social science at Bluffton College. At present he teaches history at Bluffton High School and serves as pastor of two Presbyterian churches in the community.

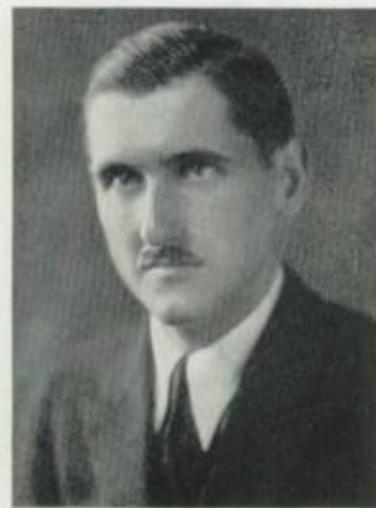
ELEANOR BARNARD, A. B.—Miss Barnard has been the music instructor in B. H. S. since 1929. She received her A. B. and her School of Music certificate from Oberlin College. In 1928-'29 she was supervisor of music at Bloomfield, Iowa. During the summer of 1929 she attended the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. At the present time beside her High School duties she is employed as Instructor in School Music and Theory in Bluffton College.

HARRY F. BARNES, B. S.—Mr. Barnes has been instructor in agriculture in B. H. S. since 1929. He received his B. S. degree from Ohio State University in 1927. Before receiving his degree he acted as instructor in Medina High School from 1920 to 1925. From 1925 until the time he came to Bluffton he was employed in the Columbus Dairy.

BETTY STEWART—Miss Stewart has been the secretary of Bluffton High School since 1927. After graduating from Bluffton High in 1926 she attended Findlay Business College in 1927 and then took up her duties as secretary of B. H. S.

PETER BADERTSCHER—Mr. Badertscher has been employed by the High School as chief engineer of Bluffton High School building and superintendent of grounds since 1918.

1931



PAUL W. STAUFFER, A. B.—This was Mr. Stauffer's first year as instructor in Bluffton High School. He taught German, which was given this year for the first time, economics and sociology, public speaking and debate. He became a member of the Bluffton High faculty after receiving his A. B. from Bluffton College in 1930. During the summer of 1930 he attended the University of Pennsylvania.

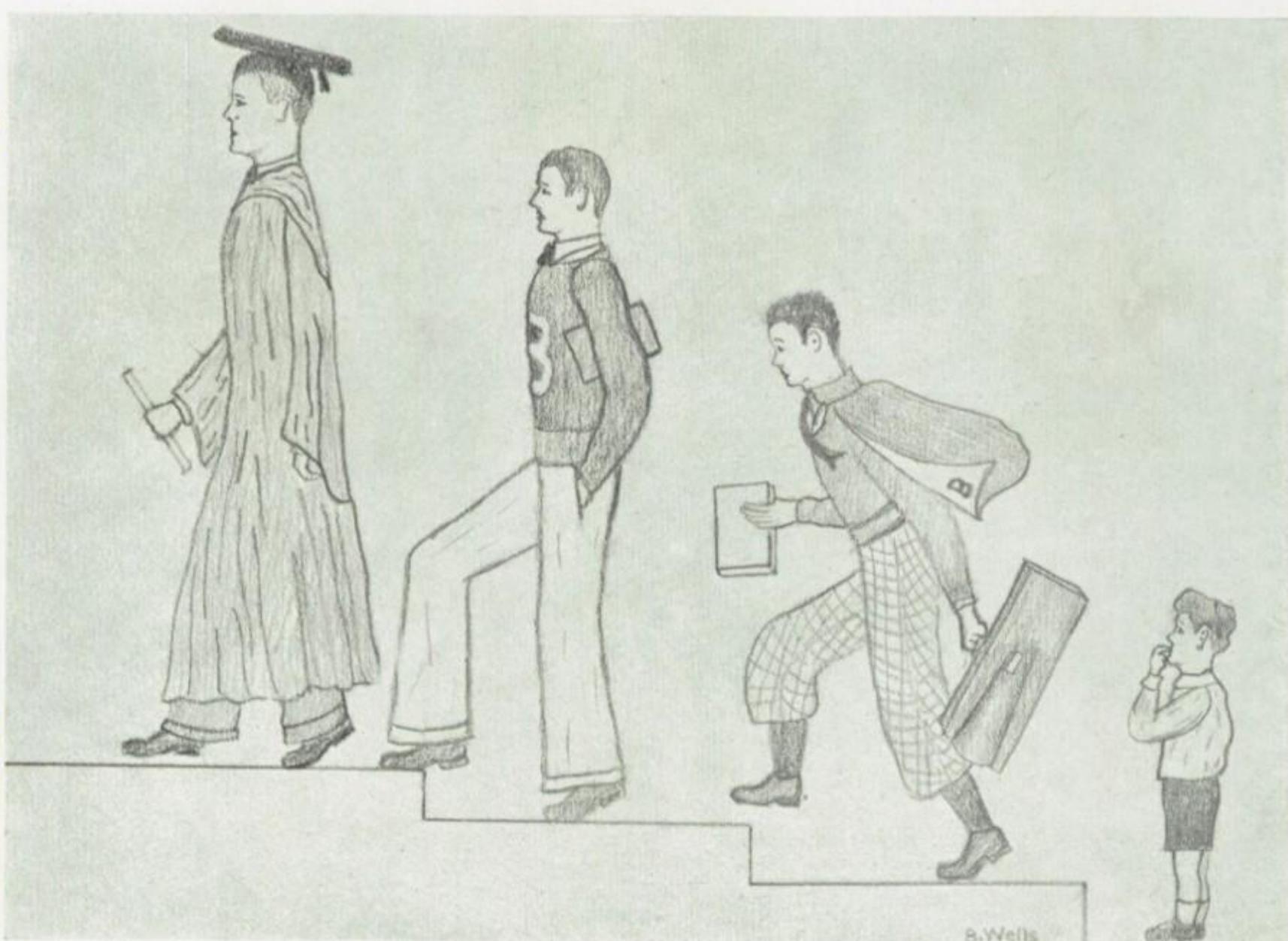
Tribute to the Faculty

To the Faculty, we the Senior class of Bluffton High School, wish to express our sincere appreciation, for all they have done toward preparing us for whatever we may pursue after our graduation. Especially do we wish to give special mention to our class proctors: Mr. Stettler, Mr. Robeson, and Mr. Stauffer, who have so faithfully guided us through this maelstrom of education.

We earnestly hope they have found as great a pleasure in their connections with us, as we have found in ours with them.

*May life bring for them,
of all it has in store,
Treasure laid in heaven,
joy for evermore.*

1931



Classes



Garfield Griffith	- - - - -	President
Marguerite Geiger	- - - - -	Secretary—Treasurer
Rosella Montgomery	- - - - -	Vice-President

Senior Class History

Four score and sixty weeks ago, our fathers brought forth into this high school, a new class, conceived in green, and dedicated to the proposition that all "infants," are to receive a higher education. Did you say four score and sixty weeks ago? It hardly seems possible that we, then as a freshmen class, seeking more knowledge, are now ready to be graduated from Bluffton High School. Graduated only to begin again, for does not commencement mean beginning? This time it will mean the beginning of a bigger and better life in the world.

As "infants," we finally waded through our miseries, and selected Garfield Griffith as class president; Louise Benroth, vice-president; and Marguerite Geiger, sec.-treas; with Mr. Stettler as proctor. The Junior-Freshman reception was a never-to-be-forgotten affair. We also had a Hallowe'en party, entertaining the faculty. Our Sophomore year we came back with more assurance and boldness, determined to show the students we had changed color. We entrusted the duties of president in the person of Rosella Montgomery, with Woodrow Lugenbuhl as her assistant. Mr. Stettler was again chosen as our advisor.

When we entered as Juniors, we had a three fold aim to fulfill putting over, first, a good Junior-Frosh reception; second, our class play, "Skidding;" and, the Junior-Senior Banquet. This climaxed the year as a great success. Roland Bixler was President, Paul Hirschler, Vice-President; and Tom Perry, Sec.-Treas., with Mr. Robeson as advisor.

Last but indeed not least, came our Senior year, the most memorable of all. Long will we cherish the happy times we spent together. Perhaps sometimes we seemed to lose our dignity, but somehow or other, we always managed to gain our ground again. And now, all to soon, our high school days are over, and at parting we wish all a fond farewell.

The class officers were: Pres.—Garfield Griffith; Vice-Pres.—Rosella Montgomery; Sec.-Treas.—Marguerite Geiger; Proctor—Mr. Stauffer.



ODELL ALSPACH—Probably Zeke's greatest interest is athletics, and who can tell to what things this interest may lead him. He did not specialize in only one field of athletics but in all fields. Whether it was on the football field, the basketball floor, or baseball diamond he could be depended upon to play consistently. His ability was not limited to athletics alone, as is seen by the fact that he carried a leading role in the public speaking and the senior class play.

NEVA BADERTSCHER—Neva, with her pleasing personality, has won renown and in many activities she is found. Neva is an expert accompanist, and a very convincing debater. She was on the debate team which won first place in the State N. F. L. contest at Youngstown. When Neva is around, you are sure of a good time. She is looking forward to college life. Now already she is very important in the eyes of one at college.

NELSON BASINGER—Nelson Basinger has contributed much to Bluffton High School. He is a little shy of girls. Since we cannot all be great leaders, Nellie has proven himself to be one of the best followers and hardest workers in school, both in study and athletics. We are sure that Nellie will make good, because he can always be depended upon to do his part. Who will be the lucky girl?

ALEENE BALMER—Dark brown curly hair and a ready smile make Aleene a friend to many. It is in musical lines that Aleene displayed her ability, for she did her share in the glee club and played in the orchestra for several years. Everyone who knows Aleene, has found in her a loyal friend. C. E. work has also found a part of her time and talent.

JOHN BEAGLE—Hailing from the wilds of Orange Township this lad became our outstanding scientist. Recognition of his love for scientific experiments was shown by the fact that for two years he acted as "lab" assistant in Chemistry and Physics. Nor did John confine himself to Physics and Chemistry books. In his Senior year he very capably filled the office of Hi-Y secretary and was chosen by the Junior Hi-Y to be their Senior Hi-Y Advisor.

LOUISE BENROTH—"What'll you have?" as she hands you a glass of water over the counter. This is Lou at the Elks Restaurant. Besides chatting with "Little Nemo" over the counter or "dodgeing" with him through the country, she finds time to collect jokes (as well as distribute them); and acts her part as leading lady in the class play together with her part in G. R. and no small share in the use of her vocal chords.



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HAROLD BELL—Harold, another product of Orange Township, was an old standby of the Glee Club. Every Monday and Wednesday for four years his hearty bass has been heard ringing out through the halls in combination with that of many others. His smile, greeting all with equal friendliness, and his red hair have come to be an established fixture of the school and will be equally missed next year.

CLEDA BINKLEY—Cleda comes to us from the railroad section—no, we don't mean that she works on the railroad, but just that it's near her home. She's little but she certainly makes up for her size by her happy disposition and willingness to take her share of the so-called burden of high school life. Her smiling face is seen in various corners of the Study hall, in the Library and even in the orchestra.

JAMES BIXEL—James was an artist. If you doubt the truth of this statement you need only to glance through the pages of this Annual to find a multitude of proof without which this book would not be complete. His interest and loyalty to his Alma Mater are also shown in his faithful attendance of band, orchestra and Glee Club rehearsals. He was one of the most interested and active Hi-Y members.

FRANCES CRIBLEZ—Frances, with brown eyes and dark black hair, is a friend that cannot be found everywhere. She always greets you with a smile. Although Frances lives in the country, it does not keep her from being an active, loyal, ever-dependable G. R. member. She excels in one thing, and that is making grades. On the honor roll, or at the head in her classes, or in orchestra, she was always there.

ROLAND BIXLER—Our truly Napoleon Bonaparte, "Roney," has certainly been an asset to our class through his optimistic temperament and his ability to work. Some people are in no way content without all the work that can possibly take their time, and "Nemo" is just that sort. His fine managing ability is seen in this volume, of which he was Editor-in-Chief. Aside from this, he has entered many activities. He further showed his exceptional executive ability by piloting our class through 1929-'30. Roland's ambition is to be a lawyer, and certainly he has made a creditable start as he is State N. F. L. Extemporaneous Speech Champ.

DORA DILLMAN—Dora is one of the most prominent of our High School warblers. Her contribution to the girl's Glee Club has been very outstanding. In her Sophomore year Dora left us and went to Detroit, but for four years she has been working patiently. Her ability is not limited to music alone, as is proven by the fact that she has taken a prominent part in the various dramatic productions of our school.

m. B.



m. B.

m.

HAROLD BURKHOLDER—The presence of this lively fellow is as welcome to all the other fellows, as the sunshine, which seems to beam directly into the world from his broad, jovial smile. Harold has been an excellent student in agriculture and mechanics; which shall prove him a great value to his community. His friendly bass voice can also be heard during glee club rehearsal.

RUBY DUDGEON—Ruby's friendliness and cheerful disposition have won her many friends. Her familiar giggle has almost become an established fixture of the high school. Ruby has been a loyal member of the Girl Reserves club throughout her high school career. Each day you will find her in the library distributing books, collecting dues, and doing all the duties of a capable librarian. She has also contributed her share toward the success of the Girl's Glee Club.

SHERWOOD DILLER—Commercialization is "Sherry's" chief tendency, for he aims toward "bigger and better business enterprises." His ability is displayed in this book, of which he shared the business end, very efficiently. His sunny disposition is known throughout the school, as is also his admiration for the weaker sex. "Sherry's" earnestness in his other activities has helped to put into everyone the same earnestness, and a desire to do their best.

MADELENE GAIFFE—"Vivre La France" is the cry of this French maid. Few rank above her in the ability to speak and read French, and through this ability she has brought honor to the school in county scholarship contests. Her outside activities have been few, but by her contributions in scholarship and her loyalty to the school, she has contributed greatly to B. H. S.

DONAVON GEIGER—Known as "Donnie," this fellow has developed a quiet, deliberate, pleasing manner. He plays a fine game of football and is a consistently hard player. Since his main interest seems to be in woodworking, it looks as though Donnie would follow in his father's footsteps. Donnie's appearance is at all times pleasing and he greets everyone he knows with a ready smile.

MARGUERITE GEIGER—"Who said Marguerite plays football?" "No one," came the reply. "Then why does she have that football around her neck?" "Oh, that's the other half's."

We know that basketball claimed no small share of her time, although she didn't fail to lend a helping hand to anyone who applied. As a Home Economics student she couldn't be beat. In between times of day dreaming and studying, she shows her dimples to all who are her friends.



GARFIELD GRIFFITH—Yes, the fellow with the short haircut who played such consistent football on Bluffton's ball teams is Griffith. It was not only in football that Gar displayed his fine athletic ability, but athletics in every department. He did not limit his leadership to athletics alone but very capably directed the class and the Hi-Y club. During high school he was quite prominent in the music department. Even though he spent much time on outside activities, Gar did not fail to make a high scholarship standing.

EVELYN GRATZ—Evelyn, as a reader, has placed herself uppermost in numerous state-wide contests. She was a debater of no mean ability. At noons you could find her with "Here there," snap! Just another comic strip for the Annual. She can also feed them a line because she works at the Grill. Just now it's the height of her ambition, to receive a letter from a certain curly-headed blond. Here's hoping you succeed in life as well.

WOODROW HERR—"Woody" is a hard-working country lad who has shown fine ability in his school work. Our country needs farmers and no doubt Woody will turn out to fill this need in an admirable way. He has already shown fine progress in this by his consistent support of the F. F. A. and the Smith-Hughes Work.

VERA Habegger—Vera is one of these girls who are "small, but mighty." Especially does she show her might on a Basketball floor, and anyone having her for a guard knew they had a strong opponent. She is peppy, energetic and full of spunk; always ready to hold her own against anybody. Anyone hearing her speak German will know she has had plenty of experience in talking it. When once you have become acquainted with Vera, you know you have a worth-while friend.

PAUL HIRSCHLER—Paul has shown his ability mostly in debate and music, although he is a hard worker on the Pirate tennis squad, and can always be depended upon to play the game hard and square. Even if Paul is a small man in stature, he is big in his way. He has by hard work, brought the Pirates much honor by his clear thinking and hard study.

DOROTHY HENRY—To some, Dorothy seems dignified and reserved, an individual with whom it is hard to get acquainted. But to those who know her, Dorothy is cheerful and full of fun—a real friend. She has told many a lad when his library book is due, and collected many dues. Through her G. R. affiliations she has given her best to the High School, and has influenced many to do the same. Dorothy knew her food and was the success of many a party.



m *m*
HUGH NISWANDER—Here's one fellow who makes a success of the job he has to do. If he was called upon to do a task, he did it willingly and energetically. His services to the Hi-Y were countless. He is one of the finest friends a person could have. Hugh's bound to get somewhere if he works like he did in his studies and outside work. Keep it up, Hugh.

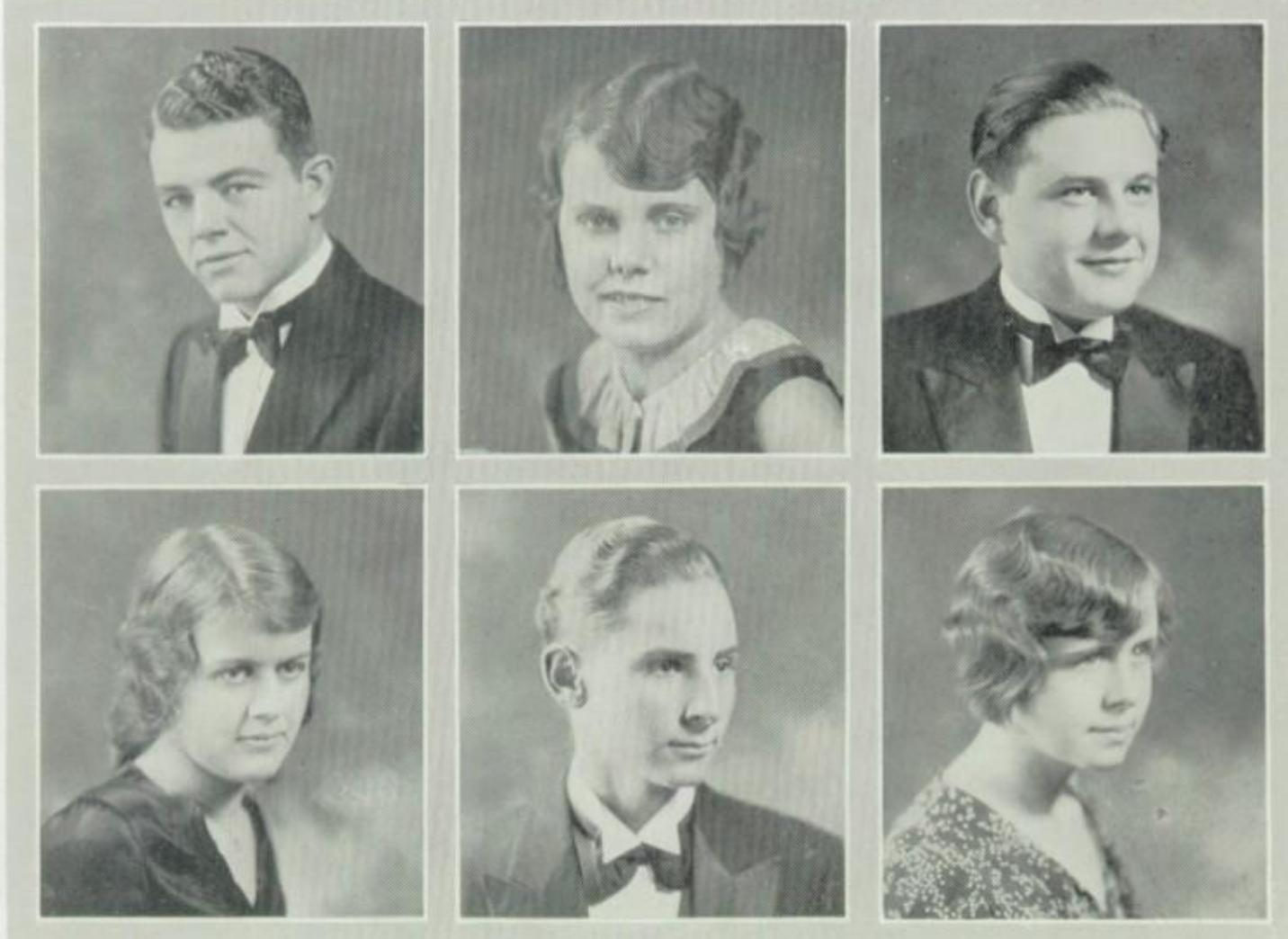
FRANCES MUSSELMAN—Ready for service, sincere at all times, eager for knowledge, loyal to friends, and always reaching for the best. This truly characterizes our G. R. president. She also maintained an upper berth on the affirmative debate team, as well as getting A's in Cicero. She is full to overflowing with a good, contagious character, a friend to anyone in need. What more dare anyone ask?

TOM PERRY—"An ace," comes the cry, so you know it is Tom Perry indulging in his favorite pastime of tennis. The hole this tennis wonder leaves in next year's tennis team will undoubtedly constitute Mr. Stettler's gravest problem. That, and his part in Hi-Y and Scholastic activities leads one to deduce that he is a talented individual who left his mark upon the school. We may all be proud of Tom.

MAE NUSBAUM—This country maid is quiet and reserved, a true friend to those who know her. Her one outside interest in High School has been G. R. and in this organization she has played her part well. For a short time she was one of the few who have the honor of playing the part of student librarian. To her Alma Mater she has ever been true and always given her best.

NELSON STEINER—This tall lad rolls in from the country. He is an energetic student. Although he does not domineer, he is a good follower. Nelson took a very active part in Glee Club and also entered in both band and orchestra. He is generally seen strolling along with a fair sophomore maid who does not seem to follow him in his heighth.

CLEONA REICHENBACH—The country produces many fine things and Cleona is certainly one of them. Brown curly hair and a pleasant smile make her a friend to everyone. Quiet and shy, she consistently does her best in everything she undertakes. Her one outside interest has been G. R. and to this organization she has given her best. Although reserved and quiet, she has given much to B. H. S.



ROSS IRWIN—Here is a "Pirate" true to the bone. His virtue as a hard faithful worker has been outstanding from the very beginning of his high school career. He left Bluffton to spend his junior year in Lima Central High, but to prove the point that 'once a Pirate, always a Pirate,' Ross returned to Bluffton for his senior year. His persistent plodding and excellent work in school activities plus the simplicity of his personality and levelheadedness, has brought him friendship and admiration from many people.

LUCILLE JOHNSON—This Senior is known for her weakness toward the male sex of the High School. She appears quiet until one knows her well, when she removes her cloak of reserve and becomes jolly and full of fun. Although she has taken little part in outside activities, to those who know her she has become a true friend.

WELDON LIGHTNER—Upon the studious silence of the study hall, there suddenly bursts the sound of loud laughter. What's the joke? There really isn't any, it's only Weldon indulging in his usual laugh. Whether it be in tooting the tuba, singing bass in the glee club, acting in a play, managing the business end of the Annual, or in laughing, Weldon is always whole-heartedly there and doing his best.

ELIZABETH KIEWER—Betty came from the "wild and woolly west," at the beginning of her junior year. Her good nature and pleasant smile made for her many friends. In her two years, she has contributed much to B. H. S. through her work in glee club, basket ball, inter-class debates, G. R. and scholarships. Betty ranked among the first ten in the senior class, and was an outstanding chemistry student. She was a true symbol of the G. R. triangle, outstanding mentally, spiritually, and physically.

WOODROW LUGENBUHL—During his high school days "Woody" displayed much pluck and courage. By many of his characteristics he gained the respect of all the fellows on the football and baseball fields and was rewarded for his valuable services to the team by a letter last fall. He was equally conscientious and faithful in his school work and he played a big part in the successful work of the Hi-Y for three years.

ROSELLA MONTGOMERY—Rosella, an innocent little girl from the farm, takes part in many activities. She upholds a position in the violin section of the orchestra, and in the alto group in the girls glee club. Above all, Rosella made both valedictorian and salutatorian earn their places. In the point system she won first honors. Her persistence and pep have been a great aid to Bluffton High School.



FRANCIS LUGIBIHL—A quiet, peaceful, friend is he. Everyone is glad to hear the good natured laugh with which he tells his jokes, and no one tires of his witty remarks. He is the idol of all the fellows while on the athletic field during the noon hour. He is a faithful worker in the Agriculture Dept., and an active member of the F. F. A.

EUNICE MOSER—A quiet, little girl of very few words is Eunice. She has shown her bravery and courage by taking four years of Latin. Teachers evidently have great faith in Eunice, for they often ask her to put out the absence slips for them. A cheerful disposition and the willingness to do her part as well as she possibly knows how are the chief characteristics of this Senior.

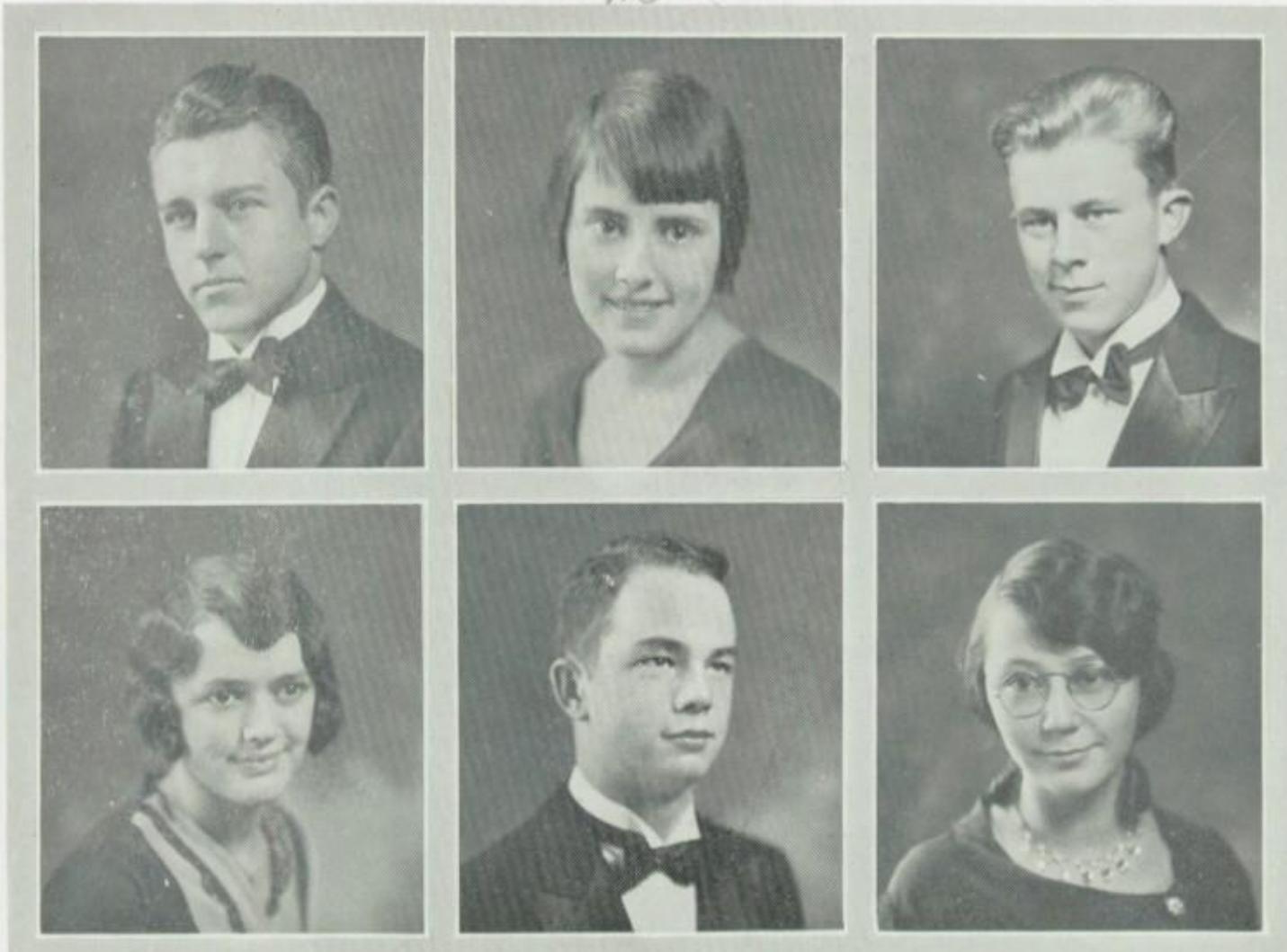
ROLLAND MOTTER—Rolland is a quiet and studious young fellow who undertakes all things with equal sincerity. As a member of the F. F. A., he takes an active part in all its activities and all the other activities of the Agricultural Class. Undoubtedly he will constitute one of the community's most valuable farmers in the near future. Being a friendly lad he has many acquaintances throughout the school and community and they have a high regard for him.

ELEANOR MATTER—This Senior is a country maid who never pushes herself forward but in a quiet unassuming manner strives for the best in all that she undertakes. She always does her school work to the best of her ability and never shirks responsibilities placed upon her. Though she seldom makes any noise, especially in the presence of strangers, her words are worth while.

KENNETH NEUENSCHWANDER—Kenny has his troubles in dramatics, he is the son of Mrs. Briggs and has promise of being a poet that will long be remembered. His first poetry will always be remembered by the dramatic class of '31, which is:

"Fairy tripping o'er the green, Leading pork so nice and lean."

WILNER MUMMA—"Oh yes, John, yes John, yes John, yes" is the tune this Senior class sings. Quietness in manner and neatness in appearance are her outstanding characteristics. Her interests have been few, but to these she has ever been loyal. G. R. has found in her a faithful member. The junior class play found her a good actor. We can truthfully say her interests have been for the best of Bluffton High School.



HOWARD TRIPLEHORN—"That's Howie" is the answer to your question as to the identity of that tow-headed athletic whirlwind. As our athletic star he has made a name for himself and the school in football, basketball, and track, that extends far beyond the bounds of the state. This happy and carefree youth did not confine himself to athletics alone, but fostered an all-round development as shown by his membership in the Athletic Scholarship League and his membership in the Student Senate.

MARIE SCOLES—Quiet and demure is this shy girl, and by her giggle you will know her. She is always joking and full of fun, with a pleasant smile for all. Marie's giggle can be heard and recognized at almost any time during the day. When you're down in the dumps and feel blue, let Marie cheer you up with her ready laugh.

MYRON TRIPLEHORN—"Pap" as he is known by his friends is a quiet, mischievous, likeable chap. His ambition and pride is his Father's well-known Reo Speed Wagon. He is also interested in wood-working and has shown a great deal of ability in that line. Although Pap is not so well-known by the girls, he can display some fine football playing and some humor in the Study Hall (which is funny to everyone but the teacher in charge.)

ALMA SHALLEY—Shy and modest; but what a true and loyal friend she is to all who wish her friendship. Although she may seem quiet, she is full of fun and good humor whenever good times are suggested. She is often seen hurrying to school late with many books under her arm. Her home is near the school yet she works in her father's store in order to get some valuable time well spent. Alma's fine grades are well deserved.

WILLIAM WELLS—"Bill" is a hardworking, and at times a brilliant student. Though slightly tempermental, Bill has proven himself a real citizen of whom the school can be proud. Bill is a fighter clear through and he says no women can ever persuade him to be a horse doctor. With great success in anything he likes, as exemplified by his musical career, we predict great things for Bill.

MABEL STEINER—Here is a lassie who divides her time between her school work and her farm work. She always has a friendly smile for everyone and her laugh is contagious to all who hear it. She is a studious person, working hard for whatever she gets. Good-natured, kind-hearted, and cheerful, are only a few of her commendable qualities.

1931

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JAMES WEST—"Jim" is a fine fellow who has shown himself as a good custodian of any and all funds entrusted to him. Besides spending a fair amount of time on his school work, he serves as an employee of the Western Ohio Corporation and the Lima Morning Star. His extra-curricular activities included band, glee club and Hi-Y, and he showed himself capable and willing in all of them. Girls are just beginning to bother Jim, but he has learned fast in this respect.

MARJORIE STRATTON—Should you chance some evening about four-thirty in the afternoon, to see a young lady walking down the street with about fifteen books under her arm you would know that this was Marjorie. She is living in Bluffton only temporarily, in order to complete her education. Seemingly shy and bashful, but really a good, sincere friend, she is a hard worker, and one who is well-liked by many. By the way she is quite fond of Patrick Henry's descendants.

ANNA WATKINS—Studious and energetic, helpful at school and at home with a smile for everyone she meets makes Anna a valuable friend. Mable S. can testify to the quality of loyalty and love to friends that this senior possesses.

VERENA WINKLER—Helpful and contented is this country lass, conscientiously doing her best in her school work. She can be found in the auditorium the fifth period, helping the altos maintain their berth. After school she can be found, handing out books of knowledge to the eager students in the library. While always quiet and unassuming, she has done her best for our Alma Mater.

1931



Mr. N. W. Cunningham

Mr. N. W. Cunningham, well-known Bluffton resident and prominent supporter of Bluffton High School, was the first Commencement speaker at a Bluffton High School Commencement.

The First Commencement Program

Given at the M. E. Church, Bluffton, on June 3rd, 1881.

Anthem	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Choir
Invocation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Rev. Layport
Music	-	-	-	"Moonlight on the Lake"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Hattie Ballard
Essay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Helen F. Barnes (Second Honors)
Oration	-	-	-	"Earth's Battlefields"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Rolla A. Hickey
Essay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Emma Lugabill
Music	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Hettie Vernon
Oration	-	-	-	"The Book of Fate"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Willis V. Hutchins
Essay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Lillie M. Clark
Essay	-	-	-	"False Lights"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Minnie Herrmann (First Honor)
Music	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Choir

Presentation of Diplomas to Class of Six Graduates
Class Song

Benediction - - - - - Rev. G. E. Harsh

1931



Robert Balmer

President

Lowell Boothby

Vice-President

Robert Ewing

Secretary-Treasurer

Junior Class History

In the fall of '28, eighty bright and shining faces launched their ships on the sea of higher education. At first the waves seemed rough, which almost terrified our crew beyond control. However we soon gained control of the ship and placed Manley Thompson at the helm, with Mabel Herr as second mate. We also learned that no ship could sail without finance, so we gave Elva Lugibihl the position of Sec.-Treas. Miss Lapp was chosen as faculty advisor. Our ship was adorned with the colors of red and black.

In October came the Junior-Freshman reception. Ah, we were being recognized by someone. Many found places in the various activities.

By the fall of '29, we no longer felt the waves so rough, Ralph Locher was called upon to steer the ship this year, with Robert Balmer as his chief assistant, and Robert Ewing holding the position of Sec.-Treas. This time Mr. Stettler was chosen as class proctor. By the end of the year we had become quite gay and interested in all school affairs.

"Where, oh where, are the gay young Sophomores? Safe now in the junior class. They've gone out from their old Latin, they've gone out from tough mathematics, safe now in the junior class."

To this tune we were marching back to dear old Bluffton Hi in the fall of '30. This year found Robert Balmer directing our voyage with Lowell Boothby as Vice-Pres. Robert Ewing, who so ably fulfilled his office last year, found himself again playing the role of Sec.-Treas., with Coach Robeson as our advisor. Ralph Locher was chosen to fill the office of Junior Ass. Editor of the "Annual Leaves."

Now came our chance to royally entertain the "infants" of Bluffton High. We also received our rings and are certainly proud of them. Our class play, "The Arrival of Kitty," was quite a success. Bobbie Balmer interpreted his part well as the other Kitty. Last but not least came the Junior-Senior Banquet. We considered ourselves quite flattered to entertain, for the last time, the Senior class of '31. We now wait to enter the realms next year as Seniors.

1931



Top row—Denver Augsburger, Carol Althaus, Wilmer Badertscher, Dorothy Basinger, Robert Balmer, Julia Basinger, Sidney Balmer.

Second row—Ruth Berry, Franklin Basinger, Sevila Bixel, Gerald Basinger, Ruth Cunningham, Lowell Boothby, Jean Diller.

Third row—Clayton Bueher, Dorothy Disbro, Marion Burkholder, Violet Garmotter, Thomas Crawford, Lena Gratz, Francis Devier.

Fourth row—Velma Hauenstein, Clifton Diller, Mabel Herr, Charles Emans, Clela Hilty, Arnold Epp, Verna Kiefer.

Bottom row—Robert Ewing, Mary King, Karl Gable, Lavonne Lehman, Robert Gerber, Dorothy Lloyd, Reed Hilty.

1931



Top row—Elva Lugibihl, Kenneth Jackson, Mary Lugibill, Robert Kohli, Frieda Lugibill, Ralph Locher, Melvina Lugibuhl.

Second row—Harold Marshall, Lucille Lugibihl, Robert Matter, Margaret Lugibill, Hershal Moore, Ruth Matter, Dwight Niswander.

Third row—Jane Miller, Emerson Niswander, Eleanor Niswander, Maynard Niswander, Martha Niswander, Stanley Niswander, Mildred Pratt.

Fourth row—Ralph Reichenbach, Beulah Rice, Paul Schumacher, Nancy Ruhl, Manley Thompson, Eula Schaeublin, Glen Zimmerman.

Bottom row—Evelyn Schnegg, Jeanette Schumacher, Marcella Steiner, Fern Stuart, Dorothy Rae Triplett, Helen Wells, Viola Welty.

Absentees—Ruth Schifferly, Ruth Welty.

1931



SOPHOMORE CLASS

Top Row: Magdalene Bixel, Thelma Wingate, Marilyn Holmden, Pauline Balmer, Vida Amstutz, Wayne Guider, Raymond Hixon, William Reddick, Irvin Vandemark, Gerald Huber, Byron Anderson, Don Smucker, Russell Triplehorn, Donald Corson, Richard Ludwig, Wayne Deppler, Cleon Steiner, Glen Griffith, Morris Amstutz, Vera Burkholder, Juanita Lora, Phyllis Triplehorn.

Second Row: Mayanna Steiner, Margaret Niswander, Rita Hankish, Clara Agin, Magdalene Neuenschwander, Eleanor Worthington, Barbara Joyce Hauenstein, Kathryn Bame, Bess Patrick, Helen Hartzler, Helen Pifer, Lenore Bixel, Frances Pifer, Susan Nusbaum, Rosalin Disbro, Martha Bucher, Guyneith Bish, Treva Lewis, Madonna Steiner, Eleanor Williamson, Margaret Hahn, Helen Reichenbach, Helen Mumma.

Third Row: Vedabelle Cahill, Esther Whitmire, Ola Marshall, Dorothy Swank, Treva Wilkins, Evelyn Triplehorn, Gordon Alderfer, Dwight Diller, Margaret Kimmel, Meredith Montgomery, Janice Mosiman, Dorothy Schumacher, Marcile Lugibihl, Evelyn Augsburger, Marie Reichenbach, Irene Johnson, Mary Holmes.

Fourth Row: Dale Davidson, Ralph Diller, Stanley Steiner, Ormel Schaublin, George Watkins, Raymond Holden, John Romey, Irvin Steiner, Maurice Criblez, Wilford Gratz, Wade Lora, Ralph Kohli, Mark Lugibill. Absentee: James Morrison.

Sophomore Class History

On a bright September morning, 1929, seventy-four brighter recruits of Bluffton High School entered the stately and friendly portals of their future knowledge exchange. These radiating recruits of the Pirate capital ship soon got under way, as it were, under the careful guidance of their supervisor, Miss Lapp. Finally it appeared a necessity to choose leaders who would make the sailing easier. Don Smucker was elected as president, Dwight Diller to assist him, and Gordon Alderfer as Sec'y-Treas. Contrary to the usual predictions the Frosh were kindly received by the regulars as proven by the fine reception given by the Juniors. After these varied greetings we were proclaimed true Pirates. During the course of the year we made illimitable progress toward our destination, "Education." Our clan finally decided that too studious an attitude should not be maintained thruout the entire year; so we forgot the classroom for just one evening and gave ourselves one huge pill of merriment on Feb. 12, 1930. Contributing more and more consistently toward the different activities we finally closed the scene by "copping" the Inter-class Debate championship.

After the prolonged dry spell we progressed another step and immediately acclaimed ourselves pure Sophomores. Our crew, visualizing a clearer goal, made a still more concentrated effort to find the hidden treasures of Education. By this time our crew was increasing instead of decreasing as is the usual trend, and this year we were seventy-six sane, sound Sophomores. All these engaged still more whole-heartedly in athletics, music, forensic and other activities. To again prove our ability we improvised a novel scheme—that of a theatre party held on April 24, 1931, which proved to be a great success. Now looking forward, we, the Sophomores of Bluffton High, class of 1933, dedicate our superior effort to make our High School not only better, but the BEST it has ever been.

1931



Top Row—Wayne Niswander, Mark Garmotter, Robert Root, Walter Williamson, Bertram Swank, George Musselman, Harold Schultz, Victor Augsburger, Elmer Hinkle, Willis Crawford, Howard Moser, Louis Foltz, Gale Scoles, Richard Swank, Garland Steiner, Melvin Johnson, Wayne Lugibill, Harley Kohler, Konstantin Epp, Roland Koontz, Milo Basinger, Ford Henry.

Second Row—Elizabeth Bixel, Susanna Lugibill, Yolanda Hofer, Helen Hauenstein, Avonell Stratton, Glenna Binkley, Bernice Zimmerman, Ladonna Klay, Maxine Basinger, Lois Swank, Jane Hauenstein, Treva Balmer, Esther Luginbuhl, Alberta Luginbuhl, Diamond Shrider, Evelyn Schaeublin, Vivian Schumacher, Marcine Ingalls, Pearl Howell, Ladonna Deppler, Ruth Moser, Carrie Frankhauser, Ladonna Stepleton, Mary Burkholder, Doneta Good, Helen Kohler.

Third Row—May Powell, Lucille Niswander, Lillian Huber, Geraldine Grismore, Harriet Criblez, Janice King, Mareen Bixler, Mr. Stettler, advisor; Christine Miller, vice-president; Donald Wenger, President; Lester Piper, Sec'y-Treas.; Margaret Reichenbach, Juanita Wingate, Vera Amstutz, Magdalene Geiger, Ruth Anderson, Lois Berry.

Bottom Row—Francis J. Luginbuhl, Francis W. Luginbill, Robert Nusbaum, Robert Piper, Maynard Coon, Kenneth Luginbuhl, Melvin Lora, George Agin, Lysle Cahill, Wendall Duffman, Charles Steiner, Richard Cookson, Max McCafferty.

Freshman Class History

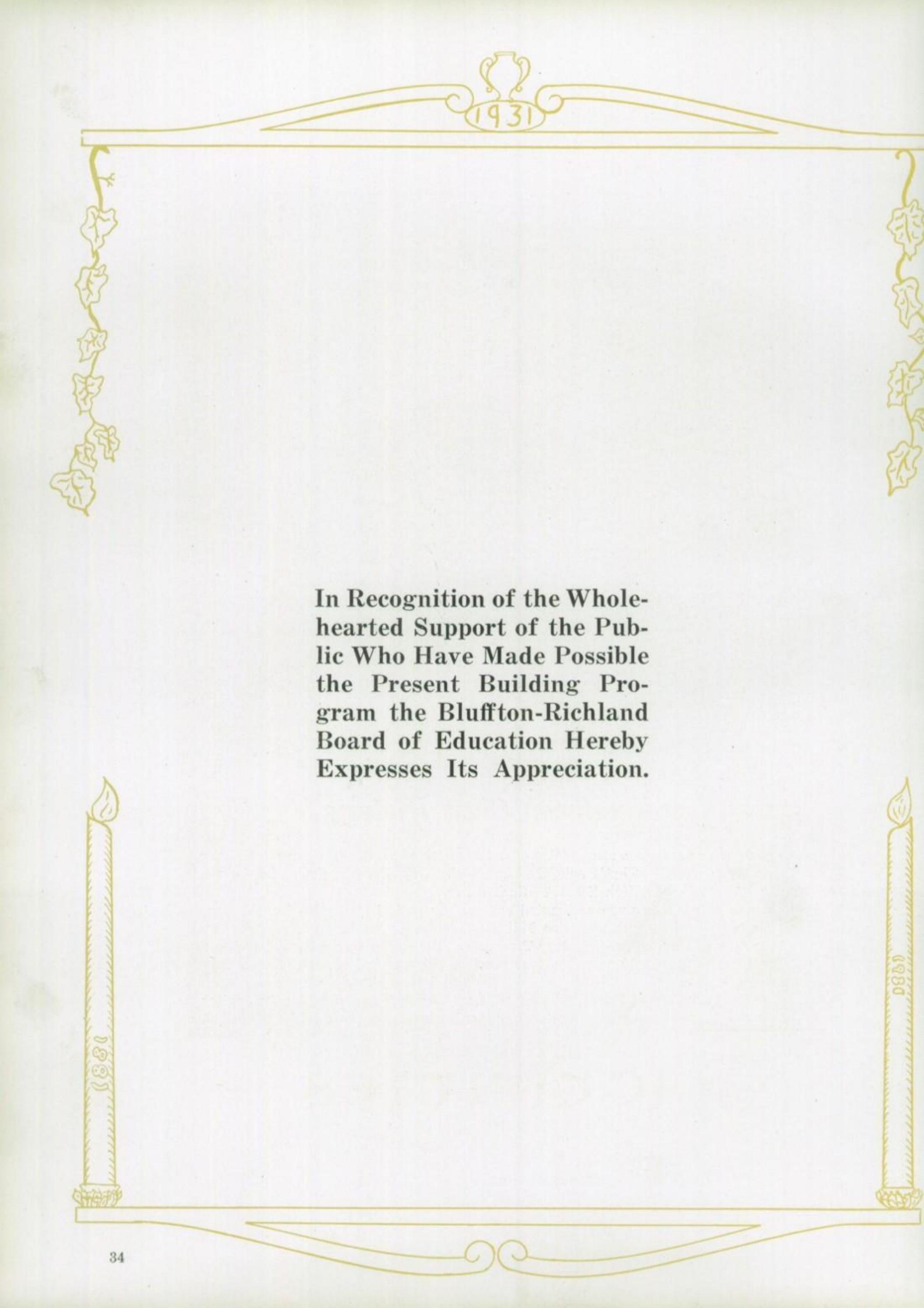
Ah! Where did these strange doors lead our flock of seventy-six bewildered beings? "Whoa there, Frosh! That's only the class bell. Hey, Freshie, you're in the wrong class." And this was High School? Such a life.

However, we soon were acclimated and rapidly gained strength. Donald Wenger was elected president with Christine Miller as his assistant. Lester Piper was chosen to take care of the post of Secretary-Treasurer. The group was entrusted to the care of Mr. Stettler, who ably served as our proctor. Blue and Gold were chosen for our class colors.

At the beginning of the school year we were royally entertained by the Juniors at the annual Junior-Freshman reception. Our only class party was held on April 6, at the Play House. All those present reported a very enjoyable evening. Our class was well represented in extra-curricular activities such as football and basketball, vocal and instrumental music, and the Blue Triangle and Junior Hi-Y.

The one really dark spot of this first year was the untimely death of Milo Basinger, our beloved classmate, who passed away on March 9.

Thus ends the initial epoch of the history of our class. Seventy-five students have stayed with us to complete this beginning of a class which bids fair to be known far and wide for its size and deeds.



1931

In Recognition of the Whole-hearted Support of the Public Who Have Made Possible the Present Building Program the Bluffton-Richland Board of Education Hereby Expresses Its Appreciation.

1931



B. WELLS

ACTIVITIES

1931

Senior Hi-Y Club

1921-22—Hi-Y organized under Otho Thompson of Bluffton College.
 1923-25—Hi-Y under sponsorship of Jesse Steiner.
 1925—Emory Diller elected advisor but serves only the first semester.
 1926—Mr. Buhler took charge of a club of sixteen boys.
 1930—Important re-organization of the Hi-Y Club with twenty-five members is effected.



The past year has been one of the most successful years of the Hi-Y Club in Bluffton.

At the beginning of the year sixteen new members were voted into the club, which decided to have its club room in partnership with the American Legion. This room was used for regular weekly meetings as well as social affairs and recreation.

During the year the Hi-Y sponsored a large number of events, both of interest to the boys and the community. The Father and Son banquet, lectures with speakers such as Harry T. Dodge and Mrs. Cartwright, special programs, and a Vocational Guidance Campaign open to all boys of the High School, were sponsored and proved to be of great benefit. A Gospel Team made up of Hi-Y members gave programs at churches in the community. On these occasions the Hi-Y Band furnished special music and won favor wherever they played.

In December, ten delegates were sent to the Older Boys' conference held in Van Wert. The theme of this conference was "Contagious Christian Character." Representatives will also be sent to Camp Nelson Dodd. Money was raised during the past year for this purpose by selling candy and holding jitneys at Football Games.

The Hi-Y boys discuss problems of the school and community and try in all undertakings to uphold standards of Christian living, that their lives might shine and the reflection be caught by their fellowmen everywhere. At the close of the year a meeting was enjoyed by the members at College Farm, where the officers for next year were initiated.

Top Row—Lowell Boothby, Odell Alspach, Nelson Basinger, Ralph Locher, Hershaw Moore, James Bixel, Reed Hiltz, Weldon Lightner, Hugh Niswander, Stanley Niswander.

Second Row—Francis Devier, Clayton Bucher, Sherwood Diller, William Wells, Thomas Perry, Kenneth Neuenschwander, Manley Thompson, Woodrow Lugenbuhl, Robert Motter, Karl Gable.

Third Row—Paul Hirschler, John Beagle, Roland Bixler, Garfield Griffith, Mr. Buhler, advisor, James West, Howard Triplehorn, Arnold Epp.



1931

The Girl Reserve

Purpose:

Always, Everywhere,
In sunshine and shadow,
In joy, disappointment,
Success and defeat,
We, the Girl Reserves, follow the Gleam.



The Girl Reserve Club received its charter six years ago from the National Club of Girl Reserves. The club was established by the Y. W. C. A. of Bluffton College in order to give the high school girls an organization in which they could discuss their problems. This year has been a most successful year for the club. It is composed of only Junior and Senior girls.

At the beginning of the school year, the G. R. entertained all of the High School girls. At a later meeting all those who wished to become members were initiated and taken into the activities of the club. The programs during the year centered around the discussion of the code, the three sides of the triangle—Spiritual, Physical, and Mental—sportsmanship, and other problems. Baskets of fruit were given to the needy families on Thanksgiving and at Christmas time doll clothes and toys were made and distributed among the poor families of Bluffton. Special Campfire and Hobby meetings were also held throughout the year. The Y. W. C. A. of the College entertained the G. R. at Ropp Hall one evening during March, at which time the G. R. gave the program and the college girls furnished the other entertainment. During the month of April, the G. R. entertained the members' mothers at a Mother-Daughter Meeting which was a great success.

The success of this year was due to the splendid cooperation of all the members, who did their best to live out the code in their everyday life. In everything it undertook the G. R. Club tried to live up to the highest Christian principles, always following the Gleam and earnestly seeking for the Holy Grail.

The cabinet: President, Frances Musselman; Vice-President, Marguerite Geiger; Program Chairman, Rosella Montgomery; Treasurer, Evelyn Gratz; Secretary, Eleanor Niswander; Faculty Advisor, Miss Enders.

Top Row—Dorothy Disbro, Mae Nusbaum, Evelyn Schnegg, Marcella Steiner, Martha Niswander, Beulah Rice, Carol Althaus, Melvena Lugibill, Fern Stuart, Elizabeth Kliewer, Dora Dillman, Louise Benroth, Ruby Dudgeon.

Middle Row—Frieda Lugibihl, Vera Habegger, Margaret Lugibihl, Cleona Reichenbach, Frances Cribblez, Marjorie Stratton, Jeanette Schumacher, Mary King, Nancy Ruhl, Dorothy Basinger, Helen Wells, Wilner Mumma, Dorothy Henry.

Bottom Row—Jean Diller, Jane Miller, Dorothy Lloyd, Eleanor Niswander, Frances Musselman, Miss Enders, Faculty Advisor, Evelyn Gratz, Rosella Montgomery, Neva Badertscher, Marguerite Geiger, Alma Shalley.



1931

Junior Hi-Y History

Slogan:

1. Clean Living.
2. Clean Speech.
3. Clean Scholarship.
4. Clean Athletics.



The Jr. Hi-Y was organized in the school year of 1927-28 under the careful guidance of Mr. Buhler. He, with Garfield Griffith, Roland Bixler, John Beagle and DeVonne Althaus drew up a constitution. They then took in new members and elected Garfield president, with John Beagle Sec.-Treas., and Roland Bixler as program chairman. They held their meetings in the homes of the members.

The next year the club started with Paul Hirschler as president, Robert Balmer, Vice-President; Hugh Niswander, Sec.-Treas., and Weldon Lightner, Program Chairman. The club had quite a successful year under the leadership of this cabinet.

In the year '29-'30. Robert Balmer held the gavel, with Clayton Bucher as his assistant, while Lowell Boothby wielded the pen, and Ralph Locher took charge of the programs.

During the past year, the club has been most successful and enterprising. Due to so many other activities, Mr. Buhler could no longer keep his position as advisor of the club, so his resignation was accepted, and the club elected Mr. Stauffer to take his place. The club also selected Mr. Mohr of the college as assistant to Mr. Stauffer. This year because of the increased membership, it was thought best that the club should have a club-room instead of holding the meetings at the homes, so it rented the Sr. Hi-Y's room for one night of the week, also benefiting by the recreation which it offered. To defray expenses the club conducted a heavy financial program. It gave comedies during the noon hour, and sold candy at games. Some of the more prominent activities of the year were; a meeting with the Lima South Hi-Y; a joint meeting with the Blue Triangle; several trips to the woods, and the entertainment of the eighth grade boys as prospects for the next year.

Jr. Hi-Y Cabinet: President—Dale Davidson; Vice-President—Konstantin Epp; Sec.-Treas.—Gordon Alderfer; Program Chairman—Don Smucker; Faculty Advisor—Mr. Stauffer.

Top Row—John Romey, Konstantine Epp, Melvin Lora, Bertram Swank, Wayne Niswander, Harold Schultz, Robert Piper.

Middle Row—John Beagle, advisor, Donald Wenger, Gerald Huber, Dwight Diller, Byron Anderson, Garland Steiner, George Musselman, Lester Piper, Walter Williamson.

Bottom Row—Charles Steiner, Don Smucker, Dale Davidson, Mr. Stauffer, faculty advisor, Gordon Alderfer, Richard Cookson, Wendell Duffman.



1931

The Blue Triangle

Follow, follow, follow the gleam;
 Standards of worth o'er all the world,
 Follow, follow, follow the gleam
 Of the light that shall bring the dawn.



J.B.

The Blue Triangle is a newly organized club in Bluffton High School, being organized at the beginning of this school year by the Girl Reserves. The main reason for the organization was the lack of facilities to carry out the purpose of the Girl Reserves in so large a group as was that composed of the girls of the four classes. At the present time the younger club has about thirty members representing the Freshmen and Sophomore classes.

Meetings of the organization are held in the High School every two weeks. The programs during the year, consisting of special numbers, talks, and discussions were of great help and interest to all the members. A ceremonial meeting at the beginning of the term gave all members an understanding of the purpose and code of the club.

Social activities of the year were enjoyed by all. A joint masquerade party with the Junior Hi-Y, a spelling bee, and a hobby meeting were indulged in as part of the club's functions. On Thanksgiving, provisions were distributed to the needy families of the vicinity, and on Christmas the girls spread the spirit of good cheer by singing carols.

Under the leadership of the president, Phyllis Triplehorn, the faculty advisor, Margaret Kimmel, and the Y. W. C. A. advisor, Vernice McElroy, the Blue Triangle has made a fine start toward helping the underclass girls to find the best in life. It is hoped that this organization will become permanent here and continue to foster high ideals.

Top Row—Esther Whitmire, Ola Marshall, Madonna Steiner, Helen Reichenbach, Marie Reichenbach, Marcile Luginbuhl, Vida Amstutz, Rita Hankish, Vera Amstutz, May Powell, Janice King, Margaret Reichenbach.

Middle Row—Margaret Niswander, Margaret Hahn, Kathryn Bame, Marilyn Holmden, Magdalene Neuenschwander, Vera Burkholder, Mayanna Steiner, Barbara Hauenstein, Lenore Bixel, Lois Swank, Lois Berry, Ladonna Klay, Elizabeth Bixel, Magdalene Geiger.

Third Row—Juanita Lora, Dorothy Schumacher, Phyllis Triplehorn, Miss Kimmel, advisor, Eleanor Worthington, Lucille Niswander, Christine Miller, Meredith Montgomery, Janice Mosiman, Mareen Bixler.



1931

Mens Glee Club

1919—First instruction in Vocal music under Prof. Dad Lehman.
 1924-26—Regime of Prof. Clifford Royer.
 1926-27—Successful Vocal Music with Prof. L. W. Swift Directing.
 1927-29—Vocal music under competent direction of Prof. Russell A. Lantz.
 1929—Miss Barnard arrives to supervise.



JB

Under the capable direction of Miss Eleanor Barnard, the Boy's Glee Club completed a highly successful year. The members of this organization have shown a fine spirit and willingness for hard work throughout. The untiring efforts of the director together with the cooperation of the members have produced a seasonal record that deserves commendation.

In competition with Fostoria, Ada, Perrysburg and Bowling Green at the Northwestern Ohio Eisteddfod at Fostoria, April 17, the club placed a very close second to the winning Fostoria group. Due to consistent fundamental voice work during the rehearsals, the intonation, shading and balance of the organization were especially commended by the judges.

Top Row—Manley Thompson, Maynard Niswander, Hershal Moore, Donald Corson, Ralph Reichenbach, Don Smucker, Dwight Diller, Nelson Steiner, Ralph Locher, James Bixel, Harold Bell, Melvin Johnson, Clayton Bucher, Reed Hiltz, Sidney Balmer, Glen Griffith, Charles Emans.

Middle Row—Louis Foltz, Milo Basinger, Robert Matter, James West, Emerson Niswander, Robert Ewing, Morris Amstutz, Raymond Holden, Ford Henry, Ralph Kohli, Glen Zimmerman, Kenneth Neuen schwander, Wilford Gratz, Dwight Niswander, Gerald Scoles, George Musselman, Harold Marshall, John Romey.

Bottom Row—Roland Bixler, Robert Balmer, Dale Davidson, Maynard Coon, Ralph Diller, Sherwood Diller, William Wells, President; Neva Badertscher, accompanist; Miss Barnard, Director; Weldon Lightner, Sec'y.-Treas.; Harley Kohler, Stanley Niswander, Gordon Alderfer, Karl Gable, Harold Burkholder.



1931

Girls Glee Club

1924-26—Prof. Royer takes over the duties of "Dad" Lehman.
 1926-27—Placed first in Eisteddfod at Fostoria.
 1927-28—Won first prize at the Bluffton Eisteddfod.
 1928-29—Successful production of the operetta "In India."
 1930-31—Operetta "Lelawala" produced.



The activities of the girl's glee club have been varied and interesting this year under the capable direction of Miss Eleanor Barnard.

The primary purpose on an organization of this type is to give its members an understanding and appreciation of music. With this ideal in mind Miss Barnard has certainly had a successful year. With many new members in the club, after last year's heavy graduation losses, a musical chorus has been developed of which the school can be proud.

At the Northwest Ohio Eisteddfod at Fostoria the club made a very commendable showing, placing third. The number interpreted by the Bluffton chorus was the famous folk song "The Cabin on the Bayou." On May 20 the girls chorus combined with the boys glee club presented the operetta "Lelawala." This production was the real climax of the year's work. Several of the more prominent members took the solo parts in the operetta.

Dora Dillman as president and Eleanor Niswander as Secretary performed their duties very proficiently during the course of the year. The Librarians appointed by Miss Barnard, Jane Miller and Helen Hartzler also worked consistently all year.

Top Row—Helen Wells, Marcella Steiner, Barbara Hauenstein, Mabel Herr, Thelma Wingate, Dorothy Rae Triplett, Ruth Berry, Juanita Lora, Vida Amstutz, Rosaline Disbrow, Lenore Bixel, Beulah Rice, Ruby Dudgeon, Mary Lugibuhl.

Second Row—Susanne Nusbaum, Margaret Hahn, Aleene Balmer, Louise Benroth, Fern Stuart, Dorothy Basinger, Pauline Balmer, Martha Niswander, Verena Winkler, Esther Lugibuhl, Magdalene Neuenschwander, Bess Patrick, Elizabeth Bixel, Janice King, Dorothy Schumacher, Mareen Bixler.

Third Row—Rosella Montgomery, Elizabeth Kliewer, Neva Badertscher, Helen Hartzler, Jane Miller, Miss Barnard, Christine Miller, Dora Dillman, Eleanor Niswander, Ladonna Klay, Eleanor Worthington, Maxine Basinger, Julia Basinger, Mary King.



The Orchestra

1915-16—Prof. Hauenstein organizes the first orchestra.
 1926-27—Bluffton enters first Interscholastic Music Contest at Fostoria.
 1927-28—Bluffton places third in Class A Eisteddfod at College Gymnasium.
 1928-29—Bluffton wins first honors at Oberlin State Orchestra Contest.
 1930-31—Win third place in State orchestra Contest at Oberlin.



Due to the untiring efforts and patience of Professor Sidney Hauenstein, Bluffton High School Orchestra has had a highly successful year. Although the orchestra was hard-hit by graduation last year, the careful planning and foresight of our competent director made it possible to develop this organization to the point where it has been able to uphold the high standards of the local music department. The splendid record in contest work during the year provides a well-deserved reward for the leader and the members of the orchestra. At the Northwestern Ohio Instrumental Eisteddfod, which was held at Ada, on April 3, and which included schools of class A ranking, the orchestra placed second, losing to Marion Harding by one-half point out of a possible eight hundred.

On May 1, the same group, with the addition of an oboe and bassoon player, traveled to Oberlin to enter the State Orchestra Contest for Class B schools, and placed third.

Besides doing something for the school, the orchestra members also gained for themselves a better knowledge and appreciation of some of the gems of classical music.

Violins—William Wells, Barbara Hauenstein, Mary King, Rosella Montgomery, Lucille Niswander, Rita Hankish, Elizabeth Bixel, Doneta Good, Ladonna Klay, Cleda Binkley, Jeanette Schumacher, Frances Criblez, Franklin Basinger, Edward Schumacher, Winifred McGeorge; Violas—Martha Niswander, Margaret Lugibihl; Cellos—Clela Hilty, Margaret Hahn, Phyllis Triplehorn, Roger Hauenstein, Bass—Eleanor Worthington, Vida Amstutz; Flutes—Helen Hartzler, Dorothy Schumacher, Roland Bixler; Clarinets—John Romey, Sherwood Diller, George Musselman; Trumpets—Robert Balmer, James Bixel, Emerson Niswander; Horns—Don Smucker, Stanley Steiner; Trombones—Paul Hirschler, Nelson Steiner; Percussion—Dale Davidson, Manley Thompson, Robert West; Bassoon—Garfield Griffith; Oboe—Konstantine Epp; Piano—Eleanor Niswander.



The Band

1925-26—Organization of first Band under Sidney Hauenstein.
 1926-27—First Interscholastic Music Contest at Fostoria.
 1927-28—Placed third in unusual Eisteddfod at Findlay.
 1928-29—Used new uniforms in Eisteddfod at Bluffton.
 1930-31—Placed second in N. W. O. Instrumental Eisteddfod at Ada.



A band, now considered a very necessary part of a modern school system, is a difficult organization to direct and develop. Bluffton High school is exceedingly fortunate in having a man with the experience and ability of Prof. Hauenstein to direct this organization.

In the beginning of the year prospects for a well-balanced and finely finished band were very dull, because of the heavy losses by graduation in the bass section. Only those connected with an organization of this type realize the amount of patience, time and untiring efforts needed to build up a finished band. Slowly, the band, after many shifts and after the addition of grade school recruits, began to develop. The climax of the year's work, of course, was the Northwestern Ohio Instrumental Eisteddfod in Ada. At this contest in competition with Bowling Green, Ada, Fostoria and Lima Central the Bluffton band placed second to Fostoria.

It can easily be said that the 1930-31 season was the successful and productive year in the history of the school for a band. Next year with added facilities in the new building the band hopes for even greater success.

Clarinet—John Romey, Sherwood Diller, Dwight Niswander, George Musselman, Mabel Herr, Robert Motter, Wade Lape, Gerald Huber; Flutes—Dorothy Schumacher, Roland Bixler, Helen Hartzler, Saxophone—Garfield Griffith, James Basinger; French Horns—Don Smucker, Stanley Steiner, Harold Schultz, Helen Wells; Baritone—Weldon Lightner, Gordon Alderfer; Basses—Wilford Gratz, Maynard Coon; Percussion—Robert West, Dale Davidson, Manley Thompson; Trombones—Paul Hirschler, Nelson Steiner, David Kliewer, Richard Cookson, Frieda Lugibihl; Cornets—Robert Balmer, Emerson Niswander, Stanley Niswander, Dale Good, Reed Hiltz, James West, Jean Diller, Byron Anderson, Joe Swank, Lyle Cahill, Paul Kliewer; Trombone—Rolland Koontz; Piccolo—Roland Bixler.



Affirmative Debate Squad

Schedule of the Affirmative Team.

Findlay vs. Bluffton	-	-	-	Won
Ada—(Here)	-	-	-	Won
Carey—(Here)	-	-	-	Won
At Pandora	-	-	-	Lost
Won 2 out of 3 at Youngstown.				



The affirmative squad composed of Frances Musselman, Don Smucker, Paul Hirschler, and Rosella Montgomery, alternate, opened the debate season with a bang by defeating our old rival, Findlay, on our home floor. There seemed to be no doubt as to the persuasiveness of both delivery and arguments far outweighing those of the opponents. The ability of the team as a whole to pierce the opponents arguments and destroy them was very clearly displayed.

In the next round Defiance forfeited to the teams in their district and deprived Bluffton of a trip to the neighboring College town. The forfeit was recorded as a victory, however.

Ada was the last scheduled victim to fall before the contradicting evidence of the local group. In this debate clear thinking and organization proved to be the effective weapon.

Due to the Negative's loss at Hicksville, we were tied with Lima Central for the championship of District Number Two, of the State Debating League and were called on to debate the tilt at Pandora. There was fine argumentation on both sides with a decided leaning toward the affirmative according to the expression of the audience. The judge, however, gave Lima the benefit of the decision. This did not blacken our future as Carey was an easy mark in a post-season dual match. Our year ended with four wins and one loss.

Paul Hirschler

Frances Musselman

Rosella Montgomery

Don Smucker





1931

Negative Debate Squad

Schedule of Negative Team (1930-31)

Lima Central (There)	-	-	-	-	Won
Fostoria (Here)	-	-	-	-	Won
Hicksville (There)	-	-	-	-	Lost
Carey (There)	-	-	-	-	Won
Won 3 out of 3 at Youngstown. N. F. L. State Champions.					



The Chain Store found many loyal supporters in our debating class. The majority of debaters, in fact, felt that the Chain Store was an asset to the American public, and, with one exception, a hair-splitting decision in favor of a fine Hicksville team, convinced the audience and judges that the chains were a benefit. Neva Badertscher opened the constructive arguments and closed the rebuttals for her team, and by her pleasing speaking personality, left no doubt in the minds of her audience as to whether or not the Chains were a benefit. Further advantages of the Chains were pointed out by Evelyn Gratz, who, by splendid delivery always convinced the audience that these stores were beneficial to the producer and manufacturer. Roland Bixler closed the constructive arguments of the negative, and by means of his clear, logical thinking proved the Chains a decided asset because of their contributions to the stability of our economic order. Gordon Alderfer helped the teams on to victory through his efficient work as alternate. The team did splendid work, and wherever they went, brought honor to Bluffton High School.

All debaters had opportunity in various non-decision debates to prove their stand on the question. A fine showing was made by those who are to become the standard bearers of next term's team, and prospects are very promising.

Standing: Magdalene Neuenschwander, Garfield Griffith, Reed Hilty, Jane Miller.
Seated: Roland Bixler, Gordon Alderfer, Neva Badertscher, Evelyn Gratz.



1931

National Forensic League

National Forensic League

- 1927-28—Organized with 9 charter members.
- 1928-29—Cleon Althaus attains highest honors—Degree of Distinction.
- 1929-30—Inter-class debates sponsored.
- 1930-31—National Forensic League State Tournament is held at Youngstown.



This year has been perhaps the most outstanding year of the National Forensic League since its organization in this school in 1928. This league is composed of members who have participated in interscholastic contests in debate or oratorical work. No regular meetings are called during the year. Officers for the year were: President, Roland Bixler; Secretary-Treasurer, Neva Badertscher.

The most outstanding events of the year were the State and National Tournaments. The State Speech Tournament was held at Chaney High School, Youngstown, Ohio, April 22 and 23. Entries were open in Debate, Oration, Oratorical, Dramatic and Humorous Declamations and Extemporaneous Speaking. Bluffton placed second in Oration, third in Dramatic Declamation and first and third in Extempore Speech. In debating we won five out of six debates, being the only team to come through with only one defeat. First place was accorded us in this event. This feat tied us for first honors in the meet. Ravenna equalling our score. Our competition included Youngstown Chaney and South, Wadsworth, Wooster, Ravenna, Canton McKinley, the largest high school in the state, and Niles. Ravenna has the honor of holding the State Debating League Championship for three consecutive years.

Winners of first and second places in this contest and in any other state contest were eligible to participate in the National Tournament at Ripon College, Ripon, Wisconsin, on May 7-9. No results can be given of the tournament because the Annual will have gone to press before Bluffton's participation there. The local team for that meet is composed of Frances Musselman, Paul Hirschler, Roland Bixler, Evelyn Gratz, Neva Badertscher and Don Smucker.

Standing—Mr. Stauffer, Roland Bixler, Weldon Lightner, Don Smucker, Garfield Griffith, Paul Hirschler.

Seated—Frances Musselman, Rosella Montgomery, Neva Badertscher, Evelyn Gratz.



1931

National Thespians

Purpose:

- Stimulating interest in dramatics.
- Study modern Shakespearean plays.
- Reward students for dramatic productions.
- Foster all school plays.



Due to the desire of some of the students for a greater interest in dramatics and the wish of the instructors and coaches to offer some reward for faithful work in plays, a dramatic club was instituted during the past year. A local chapter of the National Thespians was installed and officers elected. Jean Diller was elected president, Martha Niswander, vice-president, Helen Wells, Secretary-Treasurer and Evelyn Gratz, Program Chairman.

Since all productions were arranged for before the club's advent, no production could be staged this term. Next year it is hoped that the National Thespians will be able to stage a play and oversee the production of the different class dramas.

Not only is producing plays encouraged and sponsored, but the writing of amateur dramas is likewise advocated and rewarded. Commendable work was done by a few of the students last fall. With the help of the National Organization the dramatic status of our school will be raised considerably.

Part of the work for next term will be the building up of a costume room. It is always difficult to obtain dress fitting for the various presentations, and an addition to the wardrobe will be a great benefit. Members will be asked to bring old clothes and also make new costumes. Money from plays will be used for this purpose and to obtain more make-up material. With these things in view the dramatic interest ought to be stimulated as never before.

Mr. Stauffer, Dora Dillman, Evelyn Gratz, Garfield Griffith, Martha Niswander, Weldon Lightner, William Wells, Jean Diller, Helen Wells, Roland Bixler, Mr. Longsdorf, Neva Badertscher, Paul Schumacher, Louise Benroth.



Annual Leaves Staff

ANNUAL STAFF

Editors	Business Managers
1925-26—Walton Alderfer	Seldon Burkhart
1926-27—Alvordan Althaus	Oliver Locher
1927-28—Edwin Whitmer	LaVerne Balmer
1928-29—John Hartzler	Wallace Miller
1929-30—Dana Whitmer	Vernon Steiner



JB

The "Annual Leaves," the Bluffton High School Year Book, is published by the senior class. This photographic history of the school year has grown from a small package of pages with a paper cover to a large volume which rivals any ever put out by our school. During this progress it has also witnessed a similar progress of the student life here. We appreciate this advancement because no other means than ours is afforded the privilege of portraying it.

Although many irksome details are connected with the editing of this book, it is indeed a rare pleasure to be chosen to portray the events of our high school career. If in the years to come this publication will bring back fond memories, we will feel greatly rewarded for our efforts.

STAFF MEMBERS

Editor-in-Chief	-	-	-	Roland Bixler
Associate Editor	-	-	-	Paul Hirschler
Business Manager	-	-	-	Sherwood Diller
Asst. Business Manager	-	-	-	Tom Perry
Circulation Manager	-	-	-	Weldon Lightner
Literary Editors	-	-	-	Frances Musselman Neva Badertscher
Boys' Athletic Editor	-	-	-	Garfield Griffith
Girls' Athletic Editor	-	-	-	Marguerite Geiger
Snap Editor	-	-	-	Evelyn Gratz
Music Editor	-	-	-	Rosella Montgomery
Humor Editor	-	-	-	Louise Benroth
Art Editors	-	-	-	James Bixel William Wells
Faculty Advisor	-	-	-	Mr. Stauffer



1931

The Student Senate

Purpose of the Student Senate:

- To improve school spirit.
- To raise school standards.
- To train for citizenship.



J.B.

In the fall of 1928 the faculty of Bluffton High School decided that there should be some means of student government. The Student Senate was the result of their efforts. Through this organization the student body, with the help of the faculty and superintendent, work on new projects to better the school.

The members of the Student Senate are the representatives of the various organizations in the High School: the presidents of the four classes, of the G. R. and Hi-Y, representatives from N. F. L., boys' athletics, girls' athletics, vocal music, instrumental music, the Annual Staff, and the faculty.

During the three years of its existence, the Senate has worked on many projects. The Pirate was chosen as an emblem to represent the athletic teams. The point system, in which points are given for grades, membership in organizations, officers of classes, and for taking part in athletics, was adopted by the Senate. This year the Senate adopted the Bluffton-Richland High School Creed, and introduced the monitor system into Bluffton High. The monitors are members of the student body, whose duty it is to stop all unnecessary noise and loitering in the halls, and to assist visitors in any way possible. If the Student Senate has proven a success it is due entirely to the cooperation of the student body and the faculty. Without this cooperation the Student Senate would have been a useless piece of machinery.

Members of the Student Senate: Senior class—Rosella Montgomery; Junior class—Robert Balmer; Sophomore class—Dwight Diller; Freshman class—Donald Wenger; Hi-Y—Garfield Griffith; Girl Reserves—Frances Musselman; Vocal music—Dwight Niswander; Instrumental music—William Wells; N. F. L.—Neva Badertscher; Editor "Annual Leaves"—Roland Bixler; Girls' Athletics—Marguerite Geiger; Boys' Athletics—Howard Triplehorn; Faculty Advisors—Miss Lapp, Mr. King.



1931

The Future Farmers of America

Organized—November, 1931—23 members.
 A National organization consisting of National, State
 and Local chapters.
 Purpose—To promote interest in vocational agriculture.



The Bluffton Chapter of the F. F. A. (Future Farmers of America) was organized in November with 23 members. The purpose of the organization is to promote interest in vocational agriculture and to develop leadership among rural people. The national organization consists of national, state, and local chapters throughout the country. Each boy enrolled in vocational agriculture is eligible for membership. A boy enrolling in this department for the first time becomes a "Green Hand." Then, after one year of successful class and some project work he is raised to the ranks of "Future Farmer." A Future Farmer having a good program of work and showing leadership is then eligible to become a "State Farmer" and later an "American Farmer." Ohio now has about 150 local chapters with a large majority of the boys enrolled in agriculture belonging to the F. F. A.

Regular meetings are held monthly and helpful discussion and recreational activities are enjoyed by the members. The officers of this group include: President, Hershal Moore, Vice-President, Sidney Balmer, Treasurer, Francis Lugibill, Secretary, Gerald Huber, Reporter, Maurice Criblez, and Advisor, Harry F. Barnes. The members of the organization are: Future Farmers—Hershal Moore, Sidney Balmer, Francis Lugibill, Gerald Huber, Maurice Criblez, Ormel Schaeublin, Irvin Vandemark, Irvin Steiner, Wayne Guider, Morris Amstutz, Wilmer Badertscher, Gerald Basinger, Harold Marshall, Nelson Basinger, Woodrow Herr, Rolland Matter and Harold Burkholder. Green Hands—Franklin Basinger, Glen Zimmerman, Wade Lora, Max McCafferty, Howard Moser, Walter Williamson.



Public Speaking Department Plays

1927—"Merely Mary Ann."
 1928—"A Message from Mars."
 1929—"The Poor Nut."
 1930—"The Thirteenth Chair."
 1931—"Under Twenty."



UNDER TWENTY

Grace Farnum, the oldest daughter of the Farnum family, is in love with Ted Rutherford, but because of money matters she becomes engaged to Donald Brown, a wealthy young man from the West. Ida Farnum, the mother and head of the Farnum home, finds her greatest difficulty is taking care of her finances due to her poor arithmetic and her extravagant tastes. Peeks, the youngest daughter, who claims she is "just a little under twenty," persuades her father to pretend bankruptcy in an effort to get her mother to save money. Peeks is continually trying to assist her father and sister, but instead of helping, she makes matters worse.

The visit of Diana Edgerton, a friend of the family, complicates matters greatly. Men are Diana's weakness, and she is a dreadful flirt. The day before Donald and Grace's wedding, Ted comes back after an absence of several months. Finding a latent love for each other they elope. Diana now feels certain of securing Donald, but Peeks spoils her joyful anticipation by winning the handsome young man as her husband by means of a sparkle of youthful gaiety.

Characters in the Bluffton presentation were: Ida Farnum—Martha Niswander; Grace Farnum—Dora Dillman, Peeks Farnum—Helen Wells, Russell Farnum—Weldon Lightner, Rannie—Vera Habegger, Diana Edgerton—Ruth Berry, Ted Rutherford—Paul Schumacher, Donald Brown—William Wells, Bill Boyd—Hugh Niswander, Bozo, Ginger.



1931

The Junior Play

Junior Plays

- 1926—"Miss Somebody Else."
- 1927—"Seventeen."
- 1929—"A Prince There Was."
- 1930—"Skidding."
- 1931—"The Arrival of Kitty."



THE ARRIVAL OF KITTY

The plot of this play centers about a certain Mr. Winkler who takes his sister-in-law and niece to Halycon House. There he tries to force his niece into marrying a man whom neither of them has ever seen. She asks him why he is so anxious to have her marry this man. He tells her it is because he will get \$10,000 from her father's will; and she will get her share in her father's estate, if she but marries this man.

Winkler is very much in love with an actress by the name of Kitty. He gets a letter from her, saying that she is coming to the Halcyon House. He knows if she does, his sister-in-law Jane, will never forgive him; so he sends her a message not to come. Jane makes a bargain with him, that if he gets her a husband, she will pay him \$10,000.

All is well until his niece's real boy-friend, Bobbie Baxter, turns up. Then he is dressed up as the actress, Kitty, to force Winkler to let him marry his niece. Again all is well and good until the bridegroom comes and Kitty, the actress arrives. It is a very lively comedy from beginning to end.

Cast: Sam—Robert Motter; Ting—Kenneth Jackson; William Winkler—Reed Hilty; Aunt Jane—Jean Diller; Suzette—Nancy Ruhl; Jane—Jane Miller; Bobbie Baxter—Robert Balmer; Benjamin Moore—Charles Emans; Kitty—Helen Wells.



FORMER FACULTY PLAYS

1927—"Two Blocks Away."
 1928—"Welcome Stranger."
 1929—"Cappy Ricks."
 1930—"The Wrong Mr. Wright."
 1931—"Nothing But the Truth."

THE FACULTY PLAY—"NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH"

"Nothing But The Truth" is built upon the simple idea of its hero speaking nothing but the truth for twenty-four hours. He bets ten thousand dollars with some friends that he can do it, and all try to keep him from telling the truth and winning the money. For a very short time the task is rather easy, but then the fates turn against him. His partner's domestic relations and society standing are at stake when he tries to avoid little niceties that are classed as falsehoods. Reputations are smashed and swindles revealed. The love of his lady is almost lost, and discord in office, home, and community prevails until the twenty-four hours of telling the absolute truth, and nothing but the truth have passed, and Robert Bennett, that sensational hero, can clear everything by a nice little lie and win the ten thousand and the girl.

The local cast consisted of the following: Robert Bennett, George Balmer; E. M. Ralston, Sidney Stettler; Dick Donnelly, Carey Steiner; Clarence Van Dusen, Paul Stauffer; Bishop Doran, Kenneth Gallant; Gwendolyn Ralston, Betty Stewart; Mrs. E. M. Ralston, Ruth Lapp; Ethel Clark, Eleanor Barnard; Mabel Jackson, Margaret Kimmel; Sabel Jackson, Ella Mosiman; Martha, Ruth Enders.

THE DRAMATICS CLASS PLAY—"MRS. BRIGGS OF THE POULTRY YARD"

The newly organized Dramatics Class gave its first three-act play at the Richland Grange Hall late in the spring. The purpose of this presentation was to show some of the work that is being done along this line in Bluffton High School and to give members of the class actual experience in giving dramatic productions. The play was well suited to the audience and was very successful.

Mrs. Briggs, a poor widow, made a living for herself and family by taking in washings. However, she was not satisfied with this so she asked Silas, a near relative whose great-grandfather's aunt was her grandmother's cousin, to lend her some money so she could buy an 'incubus' and 'shovel out chickens from morning till night.'

Ralph, her adopted son, went to the city and got work, then sent her an 'incubus' for Christmas. So her long-cherished day-dream of "chickens bought and sold and made to order" came true.

While she was having her troubles with chickens and kids Ralph was having his in the form of Mr. Lee, who opposed his love affair with Virginia his daughter. This was straightened out when it was discovered that Virginia was adopted too, and was really Mrs. Briggs' niece and Ralph, Mr. Lee's long-lost son.

Stuttering Mandy Bates, Mrs. Briggs' cook stuttered her way into Silas' heart. Daisy Thornton, Virginia's friend, found a permanent friend in Jimmy, Mrs. Briggs' son. Mr. Lee offered to take care of Mrs. Briggs but she still insisted upon scratching along with the chickens.

It is left for us to imagine that the couples all lived happily.

Cast

Mrs. Briggs—A woman of business	.....	Martha Niswander
Her family:		
Ralph	.....	Bill Wells
Jimmy	.....	Kenneth Neuenschwander
Alvira	.....	Eleanor Worthington
Melissa	.....	Cleda Binkley
Silas Green—A Near Relation	.....	Silas Diller
Mr. Lee—A wealthy neighbor	.....	Chas. Emans
Virginia Lee—His daughter	.....	Eleanor Niswander
Daisy Thornton—Her Friend	.....	Dorothy Rae Triplett
Mrs. O'Connor—With no liking for goats	.....	Ruth Berry
Stuttering Mandy	.....	Frieda Lugibill

THE ALUMNI PLAY—"THE SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE"

In order to reimburse the treasury of the Alumni Association the three-act mystery of thrilling melo-drama, "The Seven Keys to Baldpate" was presented on Thanksgiving evening and the following Friday. The scene was laid in the large lobby of a mountain hotel in the dead of winter. William Magee was the hero of the play, and was presented to the local audience by Carl Smucker of the class of 1930.

Going to the hotel with the supposition that he is the only person in possession of a key the hero immediately starts to write a story about the place and its would-be thrills. Comedy, mystery, and tragedy are introduced as Magee imagines himself in a place where characters come and go at will, all thinking they are the only ones having a key. As they eventually meet unexpectedly, shots ring out and accusations are formulated until all is cleared up by the heroine, played by Miss Thompson, who published the proceedings in a newspaper story. The final scene in the main action shows the leading man and lady meeting as a prospective bride and groom.

The success of the play was largely due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Wilhelm Amstutz, president of the Alumni Association.

THE MIXED CHORUS' OPERETTA—"LELAWALA"

Lelawala is a dramatic operetta, the music of which is written by Charles Wakefield Cadman, and the words by George Murray Brown. The local presentation was given on May 11 in the High School auditorium. The cast was selected from the boys' and girls' glee clubs.

This beautiful legend of Niagara, the "Thunder Waters" of the Indians provides the background of the play. In time gone by, during a famine, the Great Spirit called for the sacrifice of a virgin and Necia, the Chief's daughter, volunteered. On a set day she drifted over Niagara Falls in a canoe; the anger of the Great Spirit was appeased and the famine ended.

Many notable Indian characters in their peculiar costumes are introduced on the stage. War parties are indulged in and Indian legends and superstitions are revealed. There is singing and dancing until the gaiety is clouded by the request for another sacrifice. Lelawala, characterized here by Dora Dillman, is the one chosen to make the trip in the fatal canoe. At the moment of her departure a message from the Spirit informs the band of Redskins that the girl is to be spared. All ends happily as Lelawala is finally married to the warrior, Sowanah.

THE SENIOR PLAY—"BROKEN DISHES"

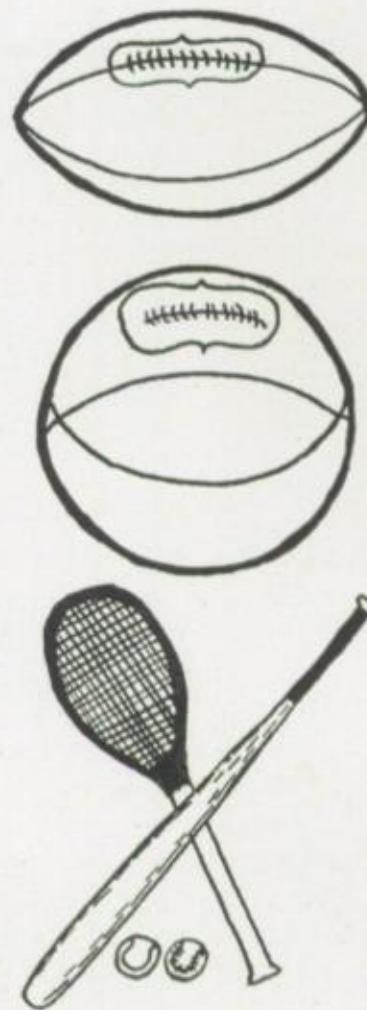
Broken Dishes is a play such as has never been presented in this community. The plot is absolutely unique and was the favorite of theatre goers of New York during the 1929-30 season. The play opens with a familiar scene in the Bumpstead family with Ma and the two elder girls, Myra and Mabel, laying down the law to Elaine, the baby of the house, who is deeply in love with Bill Clark, the delivery boy. Pa is about as important as the family cat as is clearly evidenced when he tries to get a word in edgewise during the family squabbles.

Embarrassing moments are found galore when Bill unwittingly comes in when the quarrel about the romance is at the highest peak. A new spirit is instilled into Pa as the haughty three leave for the show and allow Elaine to remain at home with her father. During this stay Pa is convinced to go to the Lodge so that Elaine can have the evening with Bill. A marriage is planned and the proposal for an immediate ceremony suggested to the elder Bumpstead upon his return. Due to his new spirit acquired this time by means of hard cider, he accepts Bill as his son-in-law and gives away the bride as the mother and sisters step into the room.

A stranger, who was previously thought by the mother to be an ideal husband, comes in near the close of the final scene and is revealed as a notorious criminal by a shrewd trick. Her idealism now being shattered the mother relents and permits the younger daughter to live in the quiet of tranquil married life. Odell Alspach and Louise Benroth were selected to lead the cast for the play which was presented on May 18th and 19th.

The cast of the Senior Play included: Jenny Bumpstead—Ruby Dudgeon, Myra Bumpstead—Marguerite Geiger, Mabel Bumpstead—Rosella Montgomery, Elaine Bumpstead—Louise Benroth, Cyrus Bumpstead—William Wells, Bill Clark—Odell Alspach, Sam Green—Weldon Lightner, Rev. Dr. Stump—John Beagle, A Stranger—Garfield Griffith, and Grant—Ross Irwin.

1931



ATHLETICS

1931

Manager Stettler

Much of the team's success is due to the capable management of the manifold duties connected with the business end of athletics. Bluffton is indeed fortunate to have such a capable manager as Mr. Stettler.

The difficult task of drawing up the schedule is one of the most important duties of the manager. In this capacity Mr. Stettler served most admirably and secured many worthwhile assignments for the Pirates. Contracts must be made, officials and transportation secured, injury and doctor bills be paid, in addition to keeping up the equipment of the squads. All these items make heavy demands on the treasury.

The athletic budget at Bluffton High School has been unusually large and investigation of the condition of the treasury at once dispels all doubts as to the financial efficiency of our manager, Mr. Stettler.

Football History

Bluffton High was first represented on the gridiron by an organized team in 1904, with Isaac Geiger as the first football coach.

Since that memorable occasion in 1904 when a handful of fellows turned out for the first practice, football has progressed and developed greatly. During these 27 years of football Bluffton has produced winning teams consistently. The first eleven to gain state-wide publicity was the 1923 team, led in its crushing, hard-driving style of play by "Hap" Stratton, Bob Pogue and Milt Crosser. This year the Bluffton lads lost but one contest, that one being lost to the state-champion Dayton Stivers by a score of 9-3. Coach Johnson led the Bluffton team from the sidelines that year. Again in 1929 the Bluffton team playing under the newly given name of "Pirates," went through a gruelling season with but one reverse....the famous Pandora upset. Among teams humiliated by the Pirates were: Lima Central, Van Wert, and Bellefontaine. Finally in 1930 a fitting climax came to the many years of football in Bluffton. Coach "Jack" Robeson developed the only undefeated eleven in the history of the school.

THE 1905 FOOTBALL SQUAD

Top Row: Owens, E. E. Woods, Rich Romey, Zerbach, Geiger (coach), Mohler, Triplehorn, Todd. Middle Row—Amstutz, Cleon Triplett, Mitchell, Spangler, Jolly Woods. Front Row—Augsburger, Ray Triplett, E. E. Worthington (mascot) Jess Hilt, Hawk.



Coach Robeson

"A constant source of inspiration to his teams at all times." That's the tribute paid to Coach Robeson by the Pirate warriors. Mere inspiration, however, will not win athletic contests as has been the hobby of the Crimson Tide in the past several years. A coach in addition to his technical knowledge of the game must be an ardent example of the highest ideals of sportsmanship and of clean and vigorous living.

All of these qualities are admirably emulated in Coach Robeson. Learning the intricacies of competitive sports under the expert tutelage of Don Peden at Ohio University, Coach Robeson, as an outstanding athlete himself, knows how to train others. The training received under Robeson is not merely that which is necessary to win games, but also the finer qualities of character and manhood so important in the development of the well-rounded life.

No higher tribute could be paid.



The Pirates

Leaving all opposition in the wake of their devastating onslaught the flashy undefeated, Bluffton High School Pirate eleven concluded, with a brilliant 6-2 victory over the highly touted Lima South gridders, what was probably the greatest grid season in the history of Bluffton High.

Even at the beginning of the school year prospects were unusually bright. The Bluffton forward wall was large and rugged. The average avordupois of the line was about 160 pounds which gave the Pirates a decided superiority in this department of the game.

The outstanding feature of the powerful Pirate offensive was the great Bluffton backfield. Prospects for a winning combination were considerably brightened with the return of Ross Irwin, who had transferred to Lima Central where he had starred in the Dragons' play the previous year. Odell Alspach with his characteristic shifty running and passing reported in excellent condition for the opening practice sessions. Co-Captains Garfield Griffith and Howard Triplehorn whose reputations as two of the most dangerous backfield men in this section of the state were well established, completed what many authorities termed as "the greatest Bluffton backfield in the history of the school." This combination could pass, kick, run in the open field, plow the line, and block with a precision and speed seldom seen in high school athletic circles. Averaging 155 pounds they combined brain with brawn to form what proved to be the most dangerous backfield in this section of the state, bar none.

Coach Jack Robeson proved to be the inspiration of the squad at the end of the season as he was at the start. Under his expert tutelage and inspiring guidance the team, after getting off to a rather slow start with Lima Central, improved with every game, climaxing the year's activities with one of the most brilliant passing attacks and best exhibitions of brainy football ever seen by local enthusiasts, Class A and Class B schools both fell before the terrific onslaught of the Robeson-coached machine.

Losses by graduation this year will be unusually heavy. On the line the following lettermen will be lost: Donavon Geiger, Nelson Basinger, Woodrow Lugenbuhl, William Wells, Myron Triplehorn. The entire backfield composed of Garfield Griffith, Howard Triplehorn, Odell Alspach and Ross Irwin will be lost by graduation. However, with 7 lettermen and four numeral players left as a nucleus, combined with the expert tutelage of Jack Robeson and the indomitable Bluffton spirit the Pirates should again have a winning combination.

The Pirate Helpers

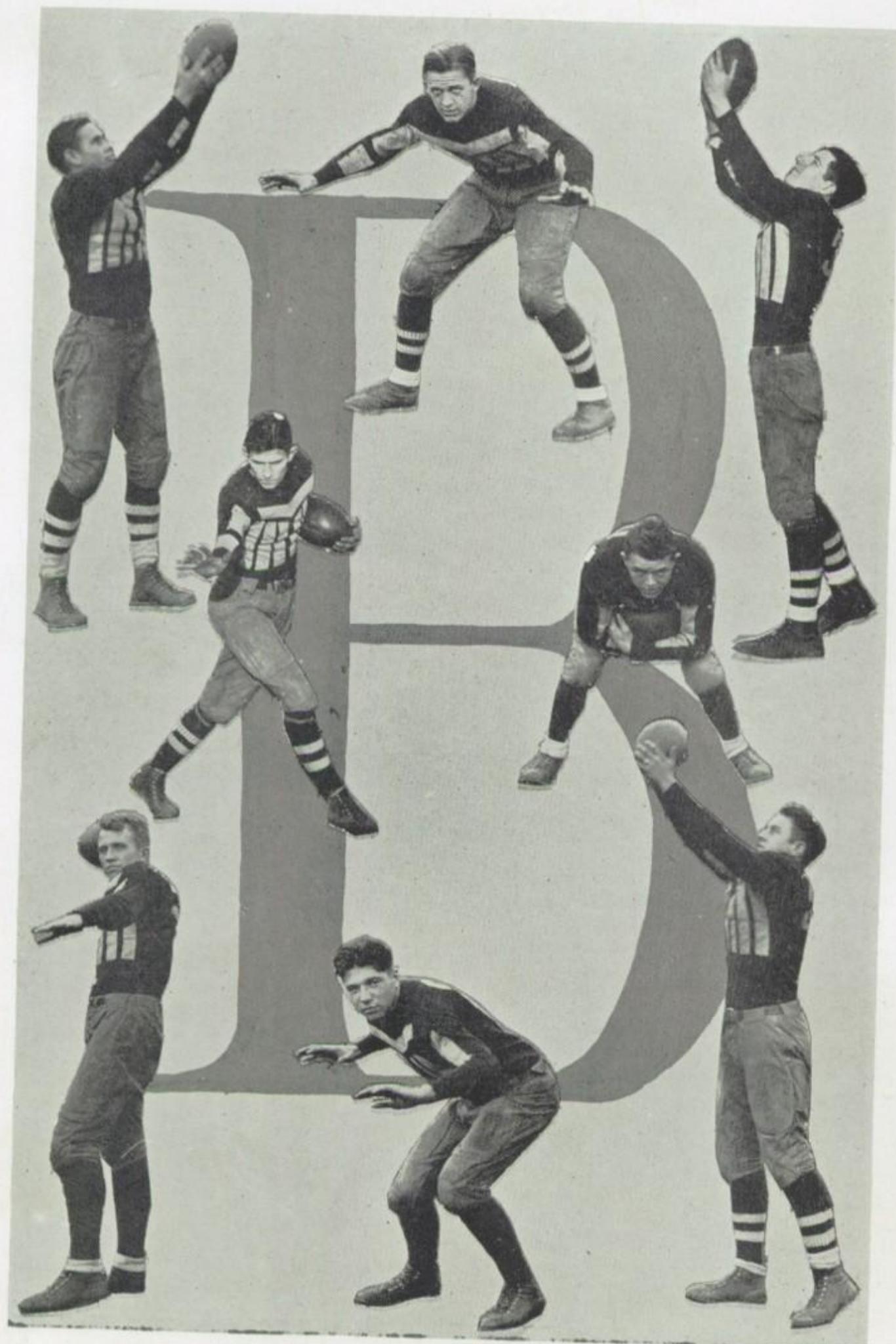
A considerable portion of the 1930 football success achieved by the Bluffton Pirates is due to the help of the large squad which turned out faithfully every night for some real practice. Heretofore, after the first few weeks of football there were seldom enough on the squad to make even two teams, whereas this year, a squad of about 35 fellows came out and worked until the very end of the season. Sixteen players received letters for their efforts and the following received numerals: Reed Hilty, Emerson Niswander, Kenneth Jackson, Sherwood Diller and Robert Matter. Among the other members of the squad who were not fortunate to receive awards yet this year but who did commendable work were: Konstantine Epp, Raymond Holden, George Musselman, Arnold Epp, Louis Foltz, Franklin Basinger, John Romey, Elmer Hinkle, Mark Garmotter, Robert Balmer and Ralph Locher. Besides helping the varsity by giving them competition in practice, these fellows have received some good training that will go far in making other good teams in the future.

Special credit should also go to the two student managers, Karl Gable and Lowell Boothby for their helpful support at all times in football and all other athletic activities of our school.

These pictures are photos of the Lima South-Bluffton Football Game held at Lima on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The game was won by a score of 6 to 2 by Bluffton and was termed the best exhibition of football ever given by any Bluffton team. This victory over the splendid South team established Bluffton as one of the best teams in Northwestern Ohio. The photos are given through the courtesy of the Lima Savings and Loan Company.



1931



Football Lettermen: Manley Thompson, Ralph Reichenbach, Captain-elect; Dwight Diller, Odell Alspach, Ross Irwin, Garfield Griffith, Captain; Nelson Basinger, Howard Triplehorn, Captain.

Football

LIMA CENTRAL

This being the first game of the season, the Pirate offense was rather weak in certain places. The defense, however, was good, and in tight places the stubborn Bluffton forward wall held for downs several times. The teams seemed evenly matched, and the game ended in a scoreless tie.

UPPER SANDUSKY

Proud? Of course, we are proud of them! That flashy eleven made a score of ninety-three points, which was the highest made by Bluffton High for the last ten years, while the opponents failed to score. The big guns of the hard-hitting Pirate backfield, Triplehorn, Griffith, Alspach, and Irwin, ably supported by a strong line, scored almost at will. The first quarter ended with a nineteen point lead which advanced to 46 at the close of the half. With the score still gaining the board showed 67 at the end of the third quarter and 93-0 at the grand final.

CAREY

The Pirates continued their scoring spree, started in the Upper Sandusky game, by shoving aside Carey in a fast tilt. The entire game was a great exhibition of the Bluffton offense. "Cubbie" returned to his old form and was credited with three of the touchdowns. "Gar" made two and was successful in two kicks for additional points. "Swatty" also displayed his talent and added another touchdown. The machine functioned perfectly though a large amount of reverse material was used. Carey's touch-down, the only one scored by opponents during the season, was a result of a break in mid-field. A score of 40-6 proclaimed another victory and the end of a perfect day.

SHAWNEE

Shawnee, an old rival, did not provide much opposition for the flashy Bluffton team. Although the reserves could not score during the first quarter, the regulars took things in hand and found little difficulty in defeating the Indians. The Pirate regulars were again taken out in the second half and the second team struggled with the Shawnee boys in fine style. Scores in the game were made by Alspach, Irwin, Triplehorn, Griffith, Diller and Thompson. The count totaled Bluffton 40, Shawnee 0.

LEIPSIC

Leaving Leipsic in the wake of their devastating onslaught the Pirates ran wild for a 71-0 victory. Though Griffith scored five touchdowns, Thompson deserves much credit for receiving passes and making end runs during the last half. Irwin and Triplehorn also shared scoring honors and with the help of a fine line-up on the forward wall displayed excellent football.

ADA

Continuing the spectacular march toward an undefeated season the Bluffton eleven, led by Triplehorn, won a 36-0 victory over Ada High. There was unusually fine playing throughout the game, and the local line was at no time seriously threatened. Remarkable passing by Griffith to Triplehorn and the latter's end runs were outstanding features of the skirmish.

DELPHOS JEFFERSON

The entire backfield led the attack of the Pirates against the Canal City lads and came out on top with a 38-0 victory. The Bluffton line played its usual consistent game and opened the opponents' wall time and again to make possible the splendid showing of the Red and White ball-tossers.

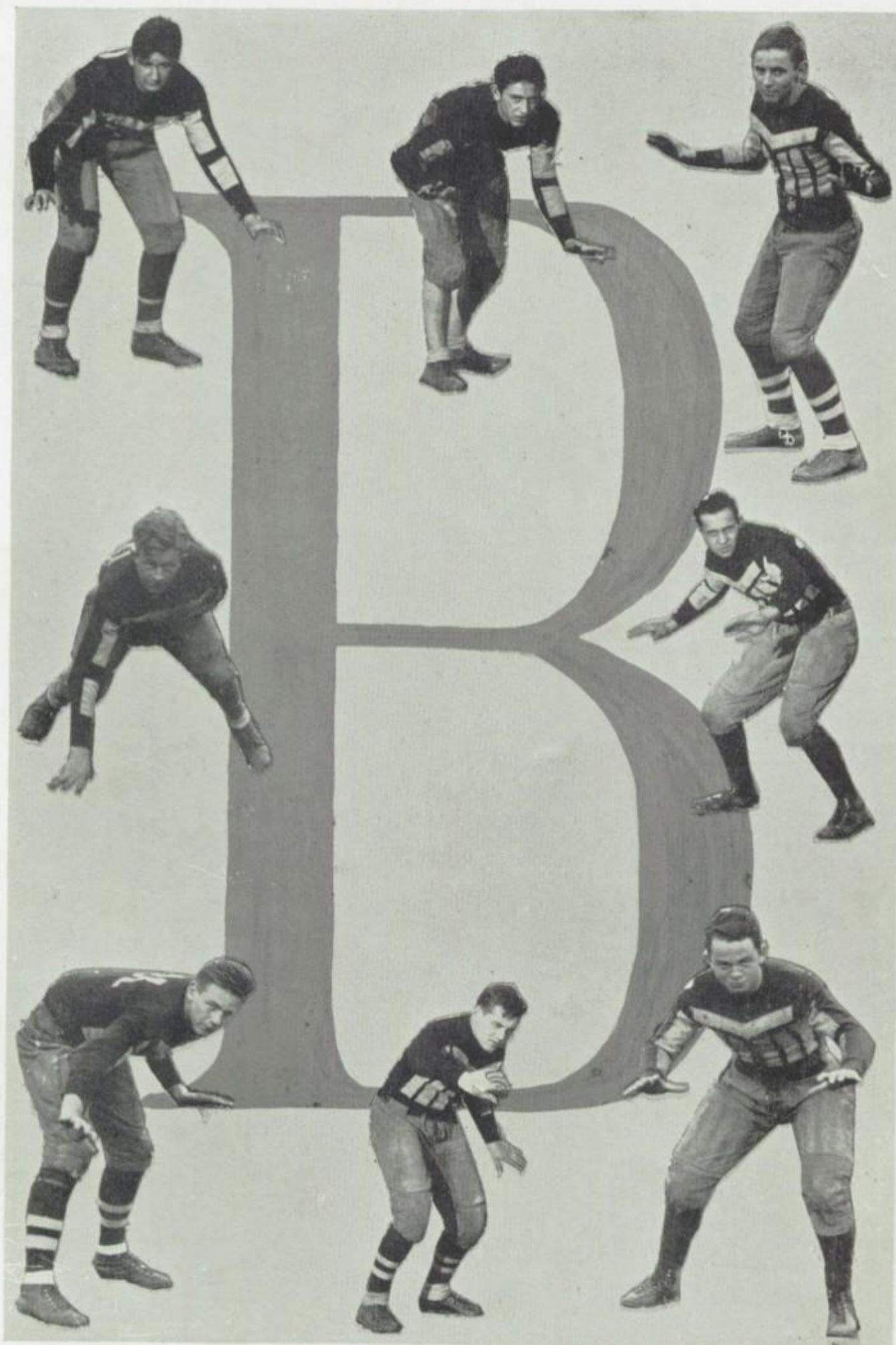
PANDORA

Bluffton High's Crimson Tide swept to victory over Pandora's eleven by a score of 58-0, thus gaining sweet revenge for last year's surprise defeat. The entire team played a fine game with Griffith and Triplehorn leading the scoring. This game drew the largest crowd that ever attended a football game on Harmon Field. There were approximately two thousand people in attendance, and all Pirate rooters were well satisfied.

LIMA SOUTH

This game proved to be the toughest of the season. It was this encounter that gave the Pirates the fine reputation among the High Schools of Northwestern Ohio. South gained a two-point lead due to a misfortune on the Buccaneers' part. This was the only lead that any team had on the Pirates and was held until late in the third quarter when it was overcome by accurate passing by Griffith and the receiving of the passes by his team-mates. A well-deserved victory put Bluffton on the map with a score of 6-2.

1931



Football Lettermen: Donavon Geiger, Cleon Steiner, Woodrow Lugenbuhl, Myron Triplehorn, Hershal Moore, Richard Ludwig, Ford Henry, William Wells.

1931

Basketball

1930-31 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE—BOYS' TEAM

Bluffton	Opponents
Bluffton 19	Lima Central 18
Bluffton 30	Lafayette 14
Bluffton 30	Ada 19
Bluffton 35	Pandora 8
Bluffton 23	Delphos Jefferson 14
Bluffton 38	Vaughnsville 19
Bluffton 46	Leipsic 21
Bluffton 42	Danville 25
Bluffton 67	Shawnee 16
Bluffton 24	Mt. Cory 20
Bluffton 62	Columbus Grove 13
Bluffton 22	Upper Sandusky 15
Bluffton 58	Spencerville 12
County Tournament	
Bluffton 40	Shawnee 14
Bluffton 30	Beaverdam 24
Bluffton 20	Gomer 27
Sectional Tournament	
Bluffton 33	Lima St. Johns 13
Bluffton 48	Celina I. C. 31
Bluffton 53	Rockford 35
Regional Tournament	
Bluffton 27	York 23
Bluffton 22	Rockford 18
Bluffton 24	Norwalk St. Paul's 22
Bluffton 42	Whitmer 13
State Tournament	
Bluffton 21	McConnelsville 25
Total—Bluffton 860	Opponents 150

BOYS' BASKETBALL SQUAD

Top Row—Mark Garmotter, Raymond Holden, Sherwood Diller, George Musselman, Gordon Alderfer, John Romey. Middle Row—Don Smucker, Emerson Niswander (N.), Richard Ludwig (N.), Nelson Bassinger (N.), Ralph Reichenbach, Coach Robeson. Bottom Row—Ross Irwin (L.), Manley Thompson (L.), Dwight Diller (L.), Howard Triplehorn (L.), Garfield Griffith (L.), Odell Alspach (L.), Absentee: Robert Balmer (N.).



1931



Baseketball Lettermen: Howard Triplehorn, Captain; Odell Alspach, Ross Irwin, Garfield Griffith, Manley Thompson and Dwight Diller.

Basketball Resume

Sweeping through all opposition with its merciless offensive and its air-tight defensive the Bluffton High School basketball team closed an excellent season.

The final percentages tabulated at the close of the season showed that 22 games were won with but two reverses. An amazing total of 860 points was scored to the 459 counters by the opposition.

The initial contest found the Robesonmen facing the Lima Central outfit. In a thrilling contest the great Central machine was defeated 19-18. Opening the season with this great exploit gave the Pirate aggregation fresh impetus to keep the 1930-31 record unblemished. Traveling to Lafayette and playing in a small gym the Black and Gold was easily downed 35-14. Another old rival met defeat the next night when the Ada team went down to defeat 30-19. In the next series of contests the quintets of Pandora, Delphos Jefferson, Vaughnsville and Leipsic were all easily defeated. Traveling to Danville, the famous town where A. J. Robeson first saw light of day, the Pirates snowed the Danville team under by a score of 42-25. A defeat of the preceding year was avenged when Shawnee met defeat at Shawnee 67-16. This score was the highest reached all season. The final games of the regular season saw the teams of Mt. Cory, Columbus Grove, Upper Sandusky and Spencerville humbled at the hands of the powerful Pirate courtmen.

The first of the tournaments was entered when Bluffton again defeated Shawnee 40-14. Beaverdam was defeated 30-24. A great winning streak of 15 consecutive overwhelming victories was broken in the next upset contest with Gomer when Bluffton was turned back 27-20. Nuf sed. Entering the sectional tournament with revenge in their hearts the Pirate five copped a tournament with competition equalled by no other in the state. Teams humiliated here were Lima St. Johns, Celina I. C., and Rockford.

With all former flash regained the Bluffton team entered the regional tournament with a fine spirit—one of determination. The first three games against Rockford, Norwalk and York were won after many hair-raising situations that had threatened to stop the great Bluffton attack. Whitmer was swamped in the final contest 42-13. For the second time in 3 years and the fourth time in the history of the school, a Bluffton team was sent to the State tournament. This in itself is a great achievement. A fighting Pirate team went down to defeat in the first fracas against McConnelsville by the slim score of 25-24.

A successful season had been concluded. Unfortunately five members of the first ten will be lost, Captain Triplehorn, Gar Griffith, O'Dell Alspach, Ross Irwin and Nelson Basinger. The record of winning, sportsmanship, and loyalty shown by these men, will always be revered.

National Athletic Scholarship League

Severest critics of competitive athletics in our school systems maintain that athletics and scholarship are two abilities that are never found together.

The scholarship standards among the athletes of Bluffton High are very high in comparison with the other schools of the country. Bluffton joined the National group three years ago and now has ten members in the organization. The requisite condition for entrance is participation in one major sport and an average of "B" in all of the academic courses taken. Five members of this organization are now students in the school: Howard Triplehorn, Garfield Griffith, Dwight Diller, Cleon Steiner, and Ross Irwin. Alumni of Bluffton also holding the scholarship-athletic diploma are: Norman Triplett, John Hartzler, Harry Bogart, Dana Whitmer and Robert Schaeublin. This organization embracing membership in almost every state of the country is indicative of the athletic standards promoted by educational leaders of the country, and proves to the cynics condemning competitive athletic competition that development of the mind and body go hand in hand.

1931

Miss Stuckey

There is no success without a source. Undoubtedly much credit for our success is due to our coach, Miss Stuckey, who has been a stand-by for the team whether it won or lost. When the team needed a strengthening of morale, our coach was there with a word of cheer and advice to help us through the tight places of the game. A coach and companion like Miss Stuckey is admired by every girl who works under her during the basketball season, or chums with her in social activities, or is under her tutelage in the classroom. We hope she will be as well liked in the future as she is by us.

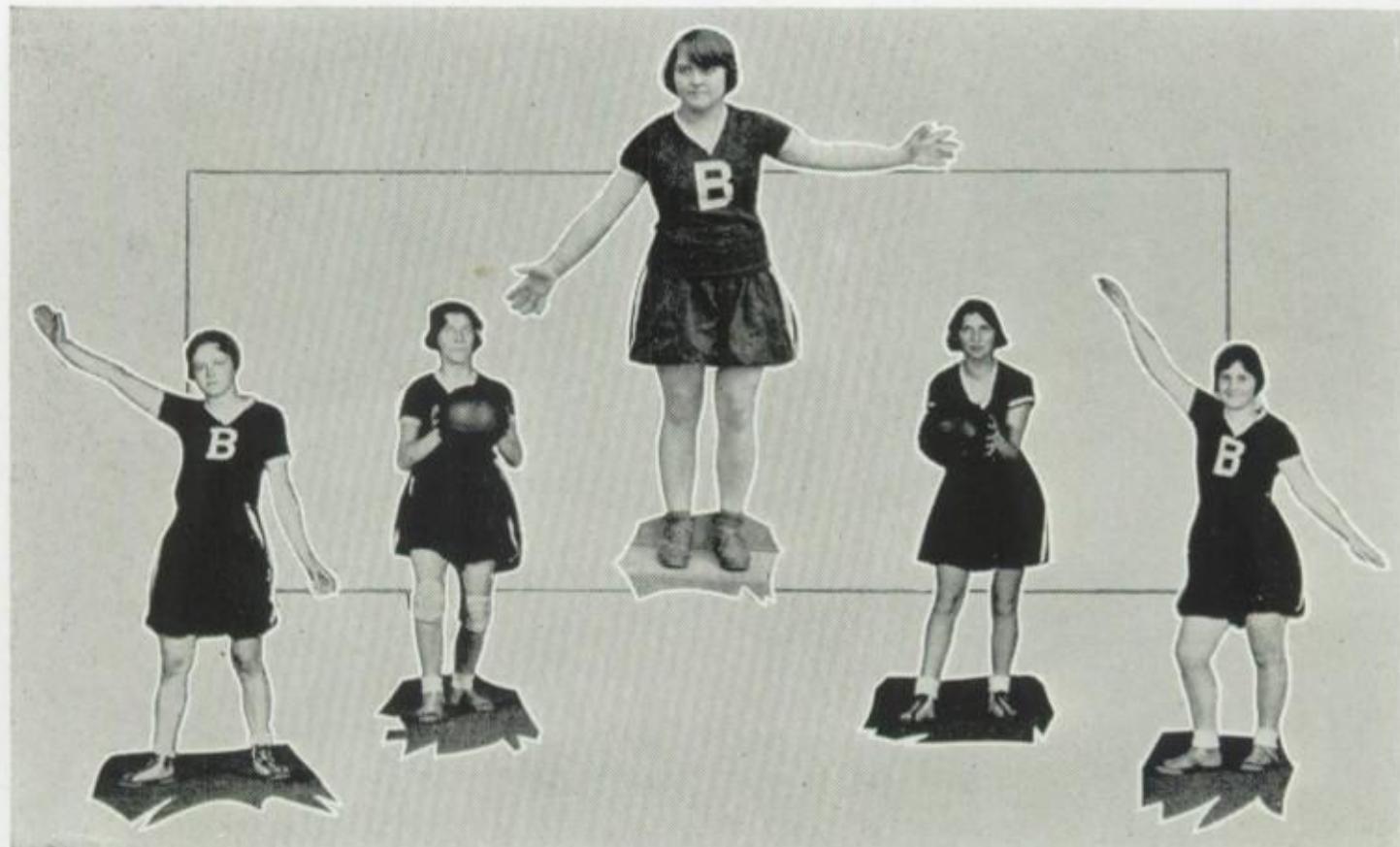


GIRLS' BASKETBALL SEASON 1930-31

Mt. Cory 28 (practice)	Bluffton 29	Mt. Cory 25	Bluffton 22
Mt. Cory 20 (practice)	Bluffton 23	Columbus Grove 26	Bluffton 20
North Baltimore 17	Bluffton 40	Upper Sandusky 30	Bluffton 41
Lafayette 21	Bluffton 19	Spencerville 19	Bluffton 35
Ada 15	Bluffton 24	Lafayette 25	Bluffton 29
Pandora 12	Bluffton 18	Spencerville 24	Bluffton 25
Vaughnsville 15	Bluffton 27	Gomer 17	Bluffton 31
Liberty 42 (practice)	Bluffton 17	Opponents 365	Bluffton 451
Leipsic 13	Bluffton 35		
Shawnee 16	Bluffton 16		

Girls' Basketball Squad—Julia Basinger, Jean Diller, Nancy Ruhl, Marcella Steiner, Elizabeth Kliewer, Helen Hartzler, Dorothy Basinger, Vedabelle Cahill, Phyllis Triplehorn, Eleanor Worthington, Melvena Lugibihl, Thelma Wingate, Miss Stuckey, Coach, Helen Wells, Violet Garmotter, Yolonda Hofer, (Numeral) —Marguerite Geiger, Captain; Jane Miller, Mary King, Dorothy Rae Triplett, Vera Habegger, Ruth Berry.





Girls' Basketball Letter Players—Marcella Steiner, Jane Miller, Vera Habegger, Marguerite Geiger, Captain; Nancy Ruhl.

Girls' Basketball Team

As a whole, the basketball season this year can be called a success, considering that a team of new material had to be organized. The playing started out rather slowly in the beginning of the season, but after practice and experience, it ended in a grand climax.

The first two games were practice games with Mt. Cory, an old rival. We won both by only a few points. The first game on the schedule was with North Baltimore, our superintendent's former school, and was won by Bluffton by the score of 40-17. The Lafayette game wasn't so easy as the score, 21-19 indicates. This defeat doesn't mean so much though since they were vanquished by us in the tournament.

After a defeat at the hands of the Lafayette lassies we staged a comeback on the following evening by a victory of 24-15 over Ada. The next game, a slow-moving one with Pandora, ended in favor of the local girls with the board showing 18-12.

Coming out of the Pandora slump the Pirate sextet displayed new team-work and ability against Vaughnsville and Leipsic and in both cases came home with the larger part of the score and added morale.

Two of the hardest games of the season were played during the next week with Shawnee and Mt. Cory. The tilt with the Indian girls was reported as the best played of the year with Berry and the forwards doing exceptional playing. The score was a tie, 16-16. The Mt. Cory fray was an equally interesting one and provided many thrills.

The undefeated Columbus Grove team handed us a setback by 6 points. At Upper Sandusky the game was moving along with the score tied most of the time until the third quarter when we finally entered the stretch and favored ourselves by the score of 41-30. In this game Jane Miller made 19 points. Spencerville was the last school scheduled, and their lassies met defeat on our floor with points of 35-19 showing at the end of the fourth quarter.

Tournament time came with Bluffton opposing Lafayette in the first round. The latter's defeat paved the way for the semi-finals where the thrilling game with Spencerville was played. In this contest we trailed until the end of the half after which we came back and accredited ourselves with a victory by one point. Gomer was easily defeated in the finals, and the Bluffton Girls' Basketball season ended with the County Championship for the seventh consecutive year.

1931



Girls' Basketball Letter Players—Jean Diller, Elizabeth Kiewer, Violet Garmotter, Helen Hartzler, Mary King. Absentees—Ruth Berry.

BLUFFTON GIRLS' BASKETBALL HISTORY

The idea of competitive girls' basketball originated in Bluffton about 1908 and as might be expected was regarded as a very shocking and unlady-like sport. This first team was a city team which played Lima and other nearby cities and towns. Although it was not connected with the school, this team spread the idea of a girls' sport and brought about the first high school girls' team in 1909 or 1910. Reign Brandenburg, now Mrs. Wilhelm Amstutz was the first girls' coach and remained in that position until 1913.

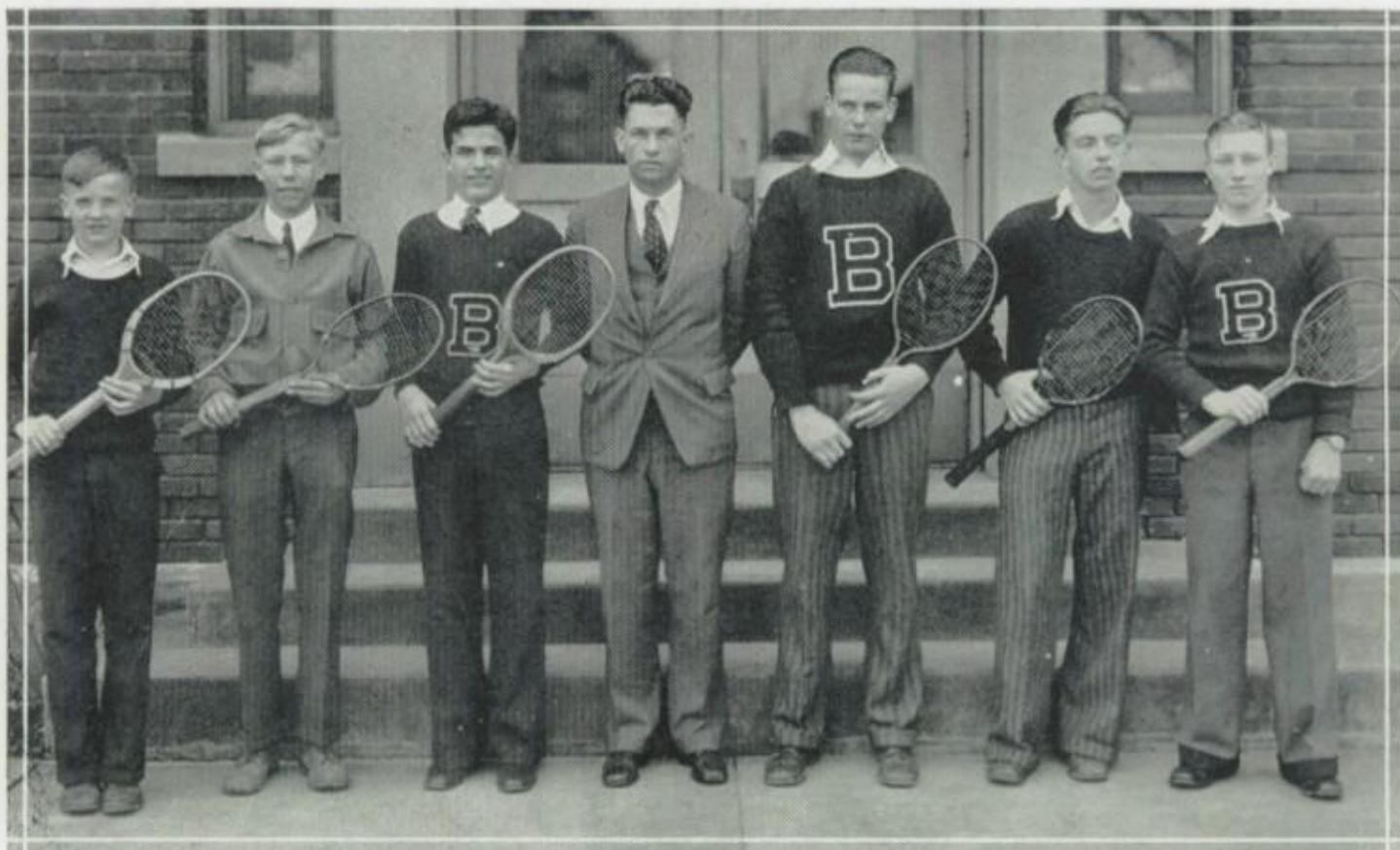
During Miss Brandenburg's last year (1912-13) a state-championship team composed of Fanny Lauby, (Mrs. Harvey Gratz), Ella Steiner, (Mrs. Haydn Basinger), Hazel Augsburger, (Mrs. Herbert Marshall), Edyth West, (Mrs. Clarence Fridley), Genevieve Betchner, and Gertrude Niswander, (Mrs. T. C. Anderson), was developed. The claim to the state title came about in this way. After an undefeated season, a picture of the team was put in the Sunday issue of the Cleveland Plain Dealer and a challenge to any girls' town team in the state was given. Since tournaments at that time were unknown affairs, the challenge stated that any and all games would be played on a neutral floor. One team responded to this challenge but would not play on a neutral floor so Bluffton did not consider this a fair challenge and laid claim to the state title without playing anymore games.

Successful seasons have been enjoyed ever since that time under the expert guidance of I. C. Geigr, Miss McKinney, Miss Milburn, Miss Margaret Schawan, and Miss Stuckey, the present coach who came to our school in 1927. During the last seven years some especially fine teams have been developed and each team has attained the highest possible honor—the county championship.

Next year there will be no county tournament due to a ruling of the State Athletic Commission but proponents of girls' basketball are hoping that the sport will continue in our school and in neighboring schools so that a successful season's schedule may be enjoyed by future teams.



1931



The Tennis Squad—Charles Steiner, Konstantine Epp, Gordon Alderfer, Sidney Stettler, Coach, Richard Ludwig, Tom Perry, Robert Balmer, John Romey, Paul Hirschler, George Musselman.

Tennis

The return of spring in 1930 brought out a large group of candidates for the tennis team. Only one veteran, Perry, was on hand at the opening of the season. With Tom as the nucleus a new combination of racket wielders was organized which fared well for a new team. Wapakoneta was trimmed twice during the season by scores of 3-1 and 5-0. Findlay proved too strong in the first encounter 1-5 but was held to a tie 3-3 in a return engagement at Findlay later in the season. Bowling Green defeated the locals 5-0 and 2-1. Perry, Balmer, Alderfer, Ludwig and Romey bore the brunt of the battles.

1931 found all these veterans returning and also brought its valuable recruits in Epp and Steiner. To date this combination has been very successful and will enter the district tennis competition at Toledo Waite. Findlay has been defeated twice 4-3 and 4-2, Bowling Green 4-1 and Wapakoneta 4-2. A return match is scheduled at Wapakoneta and negotiations are under way for contests with Van Wert. The squad is looking forward with high hopes for the district meet and has good chances of placing one and possibly two candidates for the state finals at Columbus on May 22 and 23. Two years ago the team swept through the district competition and this group is being groomed to duplicate their record.



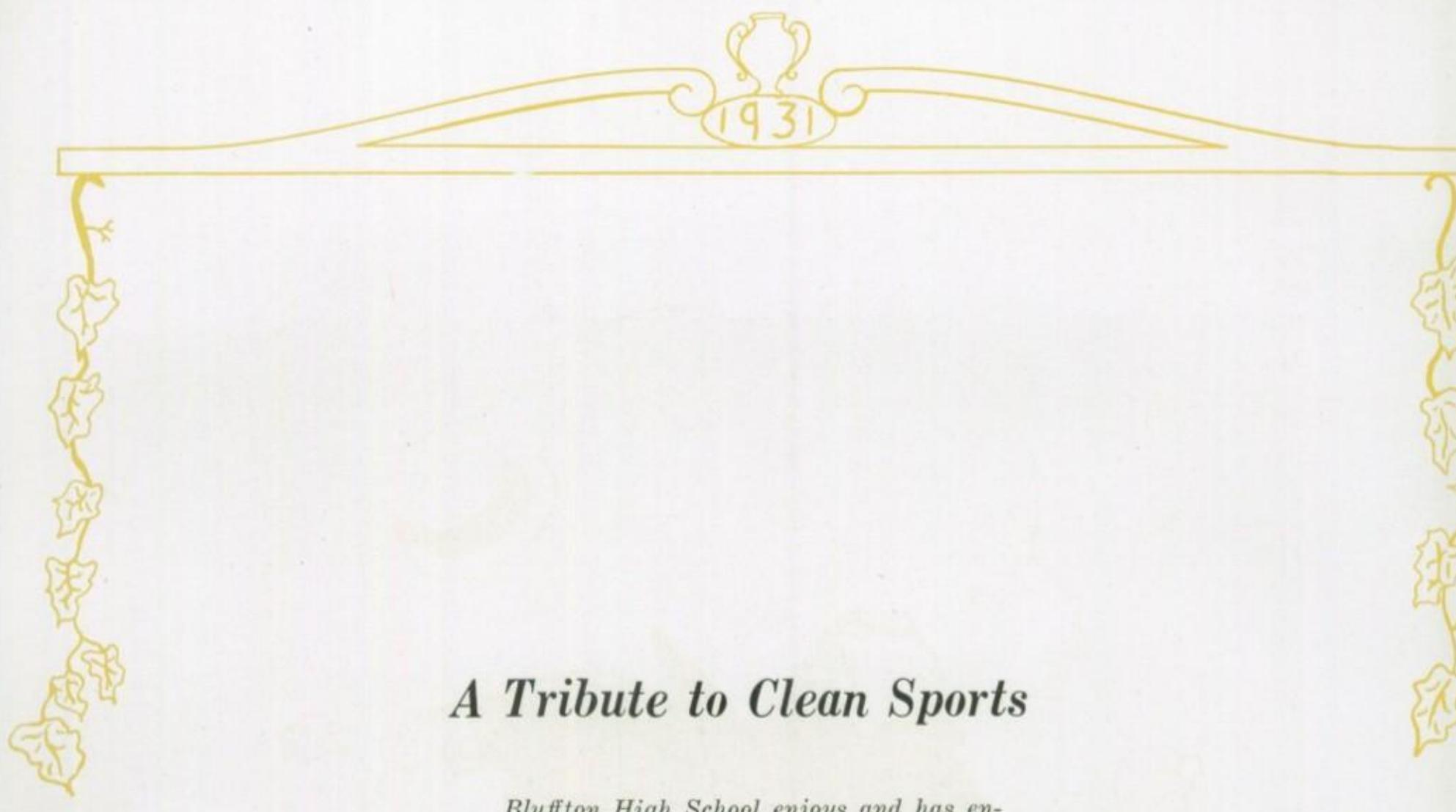
THE 1930 BASEBALL SQUAD

Baseball Summary

The national pastime was first introduced in our school as a competitive sport last year. Faced with an almost hopeless task of producing a team from a squad of twenty-five fellows without any previous diamond experience, Coach Robeson soon developed a combination that won four out of five games. The opening game saw the Bluffton nine defeated by the champion Harrod team to the tune 17-3. However, after more practice and experience the Pirate aggregation downed all remaining opponents, backed by the stellar pitching of "Shorty" Gratz. In the second fracas the Waynesfield nine was defeated 10-1. Playing the first home game of the year the Beaverdam team was downed 6-1 in a game replete with thrills. Columbus Grove was the next nine to meet defeat. Again Gratz pulled the game out of the fire in the sixth frame, by whiffing two Grove batters. The final game of the season saw the Pirate nine in action against the Lafayette team. This game was characterized by much verbal argument between the Lafayette coach and the referee, the Bluffton lads winning both the argument and game, the latter by a score of 8-4. This certainly was an unusual season's record for a green team and much credit must be given to Coach Robeson.

A continuation of last year's success has been shown in the 1931 season. Only one game was marked on the wrong side of the ledger; the game lost to the Welshmen of Gomer 6-4. Beaverdam was turned back to the tune of 27-8 with a barrage of hits and runs that seemed unstoppable. Shawnee met their first reverse at the hands of the Pirates by a score of 4-3. Spencerville was again subdued by a score of 6-5.

The large squads out for places on the team promise high quality teams in the future and much can be expected from the Bluffton baseball nine again next year. The members of the 1931 squad include Captain Odell Alspach, Howard Triplehorn, Ross Irwin, Sidney Balmer, Manley Thompson, Jim Morrison, Wilford Gratz, Nelson Basinger, Garfield Griffith, Woodrow Lugibill, Emerson Niswander, Ralph Locher and Hugh Niswander.



1931

A Tribute to Clean Sports

Bluffton High School enjoys and has enjoyed for a long time past a reputation as a school sponsoring clean sports. Letters from friendly enemies, statements from officials, and public opinion wherever Bluffton teams have gone, all amply attest to this. This has been due to the coaches, the teams themselves, and last but not least, the attitude of the Bluffton spectators. To play clean and hard and to be a good loser has been the aim of the school since the beginning of athletics. It is the sincere hope of all friends of the school that this spirit may be maintained and fostered throughout the years to come. We want winning teams but only if these teams can abide by the spirit and the letter of the rules.

1931



FEATURES

“Glittering Spires”

Far into the heavens, like a giant pillar of steel, extends the mirror-like spire of one of man's finest creations, the Empire State building. To the unthinking mind this spectacle is the object of wonder and admiration. The spire is the locus of observation. To the thinking mind, though, an entirely different sight is revealed. It is not the shafts of steel—it is not the thousands of windows reflecting like myriads of lakes the rays of a noon-day sun, but the tons of concrete that have been poured on the solid rock far below the surface to form the foundation for the massive pile of steel.

Similarly stands the civilization which bore such a supreme achievement. The highest peaks of industrial and intellectual progress loom far above anything man has ever seen. Reflections of the rays of advancement are seen in thousands of inventions and discoveries. But what is there to support these spires? Digging down below the surface do we find the foundation of this civilization founded on solid rock? We seek in vain and stand wonderingly by as the destructive tornadoes of the past are being borne again in the turmoil of a rapidly advancing age. Already the structure is swaying in the light breezes that precede the testing storm. Let us now turn to these breezes and find out the nature of their accompanying sequences.

First to be seen, as one examines this swaying structure of civilization (in which 2% of our population control almost two-thirds of our wealth) is the immense power placed in the hands of a few. To this may be traced the apparently widely separated industrial, political and social tremors shaking our engineering marvel of civilization. According to a report by President Wilson's Commission on Industrial Relations six affiliated financial groups held absolute control over more than two and one-half million workers. By virtue of the wage and the job, then, the captains of industry can almost determine whether or not millions of people shall be permitted to live. As a result we find the following startling figures in a current labor magazine. While incomes of over a million have gone up amazingly the number receiving \$5,000 or more has actually decreased to the extent that the appalling total of over one-half of our family heads are receiving less than \$1,500 annually. With this standard of distribution prevailing, millions of people, unable to eke out a comfortable living, are forced to live in dirty, germ filled hovels, many freezing to death in winter and all living a life of misery among the squalor of our industrial districts. Imagination then, can easily picture the scene of a father, desperate with the suffering of his loved ones, going out to find some food for them regardless of the method. Here lies the cause, as America's most famous sociologists will agree, of a large proportion of America's most serious problem—crime.

Much worse than this, though, is the control achieved by the large capitalist over our state and national governments. Either thru the lobbyist, whose power is enormous, the controlled press or by direct office holding itself they have gained great control over the devious wires of government. Indeed, according to former Ambassador Gerard, who was in intimate touch with our government, sixty-four men indirectly control the United States government at the present time. Our tariff laws and the refusal to enact social legislation laws are several comparatively minor examples of this control held by the giants of industry.

A far-reaching result of this political control is that to it may be traced a large proportion of the blame for many of the wars of history and to the present prevalence of militarism. The ordinary person has no wish to fight. His happiness consists of living peacefully at home with his family. But, alas! it is not to be. The economic battles engaged in by the large capitalists in the struggle for profits leads time and again, as it did in the past World War, to the arousing of a hot-headed nationalism by the controlled press and from thence to war. As we recall that everyone who is acquainted with the facts agrees that another war means the destruction of civilization we may readily see the necessity of destroying the hold of capitalism on government. Business should be forced to function for itself.

The remedy for these conditions, and their cause, lies not, as many would propose in communism, nor need it even be socialism although some socialistic principles will no doubt be included. It at once becomes evident that each individual tremor can be counteracted or the entire cause removed. Both methods may be used to advantage. By lowering the income tax rates on the smaller incomes and greatly increasing them on the very high incomes the fundamental cause can be partially abolished and the whole structure of civilization placed on a more solid basis. It should be borne in mind at this time, though, that our purpose is not to discourage the building up of large incomes but rather to insure the laborer an adequate living, making the building more perfectly balanced. We realize that the development of huge fortunes is imperative for continued human progress but these incomes cannot stand except when placed upon a foundation of a contented and happy lower class.

We may check the industrial power and at the same time prevent the development

of over-large incomes by a system of profit sharing. Unemployment insurance may be used to prevent unnecessary discharge and a system of labor boards, composed of laborers and employers together should be formed to regulate the wages and hours of employment with full power to settle all disputes. Thus would one immense wound disappear and at the same time the fundamental cause would have its sharp edge removed.

Political control, upon the achievement of the above would be partly removed. No longer bothered by the fear that he would lose his job the worker could vote for whom he pleased while the hold of the immensely rich would be cut down in proportion to their incomes. Further steps however would be necessary to remove all danger of undue control. Generally speaking, sufficient protection would be offered by the formation of censorship boards to determine a candidate's political and financial status. As all newspapers would be compelled to publish the results we could be fairly certain of receiving untainted lawmakers. To take special care of the worst result of governmental control and to further insure our safety a nationwide referendum would be required before war could be declared thus barring another war from being started by a controlled Congress.

Ah! America, you must awake from your false security. The time is now come when these increasingly dangerous elements must be removed or the wonderful achievements and civilization you have given the world will crash to the ground and pass into oblivion. The resentful millions of unemployed crowding your streets may at any time arouse themselves in their anger and plunge the whole nation—and world into turmoil. Shall we allow this to happen? The answer is no—America's priceless contributions to civilization must be preserved for future generations.

—Delivered by Paul Hirschler, Valedictorian of the class of '31
at Commencement, May 21, 1931.

* * * * *

The Honor Roll

Each year special recognition is given to the Seniors with the highest scholastic standing. The valedictorian of the Class of '31 is Paul Hirschler. The determination of this honorary position was not difficult since Paul has stood at the head of his classes during all four years of High School. Although no one else would know the answer to a perplexing question, he could always be counted upon to supply the correct answer. However, more difficulty was encountered when a salutatorian was chosen. In close ranking with Frances Musselman, the salutatorian, were Rosella Montgomery, Roland Bixler and Frances Ciblez.

Near the close of the year, the eight Seniors ranking highest in the class competed in the Second Annual Senior Scholarship Examinations at Lima. In these comprehensive knowledge tests, Roland Bixler, Paul Hirschler and Tom Perry received awards of Honorable Mention in Allen County and Roland Bixler won honorable mention in the Northwest Ohio District.

The ranking of the first five Seniors for the entire four year course was as follows: Paul Hirschler 91.07 per cent, Frances Musselman, 89.67 per cent, Rosella Montgomery, 89.266 per cent, Roland Bixler, 88.7 per cent and Frances Ciblez, 88.27 per cent.

* * * * *

The Activities Honor System

In 1929 the Student Senate of Bluffton High School adopted a system whereby the outstanding members of the Senior Class might be determined and given recognition, even if they did not rank quite so well in scholarship. This system takes into consideration membership and leadership in the fields of Scholarship, Athletics, Debate, Class Leadership, Instrumental and Vocal Music, Hi-Y, Girl Reserves, and Dramatics. The records of each student and his activities are kept during the four years and totalled at the end of the Senior year. By this method, the individuals who have contributed to the betterment of the school, are given due recognition and honor. This year for the first time, the students receiving the highest number of points are to receive handsome silver trophies in recognition of their services to the school. Since these awards are made to the highest boy and the highest girl, Garfield Griffith and Rosella Montgomery are to be the 1931 recipients.

The first eight seniors have points to their credit as follows: Garfield Griffith, 199, Roland Bixler, 184, Howard Triplehorn, 141, Rosella Montgomery, 130, Paul Hirschler, 125, Frances Musselman, 123, Elizabeth Kliewer, 93, and Neva Badertscher, 90 points.



Caught Short

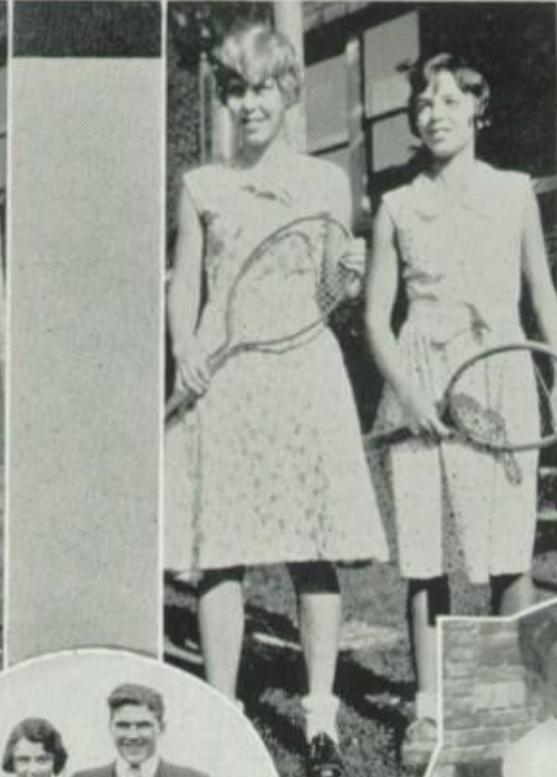


The Show Off

R



Intellectuals



What a Racket

S



Two
Forwards



Who's This?



The Iron Man



You Twit
or
I'll Tweet



Ouch!



A Bad Egg



A-pples



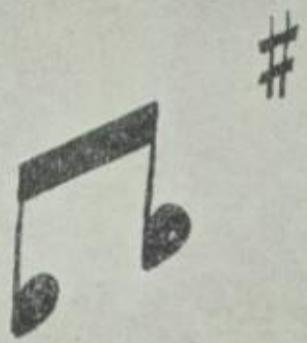
Thorns Among Roses



I
Faw
Down



Family Tree



b

Ye Silent Quartet



The Manuscript Extraordinary

One rainy day in the year of 1955, as I was dusting the books in the Bluffton High School Library, I chanced upon a little, old manuscript. Upon turning the pages I discovered that it was an old diary of the 1931 class of Bluffton High School, written in 1945 by the illustrious Louise Benroth, missionary to the heathen Hottentots. The legible part of the manuscript ran as follows:

Jan. 1, 1945—Senator John Beagle and his charming wife, the former Miss Wilner Mumma, were the guests of honor at my New Year's Party. Nelson Steiner, Ambassador to Africa, just returning to his native land, dropped in unexpectedly. Coach Oscar Odell Alspach, the present coach of "Our Gang Comedies" was quite keyed-up, and was making love to the widow, Neva Badertscher.

Jan. 5, 1945—Whom should I meet this morning, when at the local market, but Roland Matter, who was selling fish, and Donavon Geiger, selling onions from his truck farm? To-day I was put in charge of my former classmate's (Evelyn Gratz's) small son. In order to entertain such a child properly I took him to the circus. There we saw Weldon Lightner, selling peanuts to feed to the elephants (although it was hard to distinguish him from the elephants). We also saw Elizabeth Kliewer in the side show as the woman with three eyes.

Jan. 12, 1945—Upon picking up the morning paper I discovered Miss Mabel Steiner giving advice to all the lovelorn he's and she's.

Jan. 20, 1945—Of all the surprises, today's is the best. Mr. William Wells, the noted orchestra conductor from Roxy's Theatre, New York, accompanied by his charming wife and six little Billies, called upon me. They said that Roland Bixler was taking out a patent for a tonic to increase growth.

Jan. 25, 1945—I received a letter this morning from Alma Shalley, seamstress deluxe, informing me that Paul Hirschler, the famous Atlantic City lifeguard, had rescued two of his classmates from a briny death. They were Misses Mae Nusbaum and Vera Habegger.

Feb. 2, 1945—To-day is the day I left for my vacation. On the train was Howard Triplehorn and his bride, the former Miss Eleanor Matter. They are giving a series of lectures on "How to raise a Family."

Feb. 4, 1945—At a small town in Indiana I saw Harold Bell bossing a telephone gang. To my surprise Harold Burkholder and Woody Lugenbuhl were members of the gang.

Feb. 10, 1945—At South Bend, I chanced to meet Woodrow Herr and James West working at the "Ladies Outfitting." The attractive floor-walker was Kenneth Neuenschwander.

Feb. 11, 1945—This evening I saw Dora Dillman starring in the play, "Get Your Man," and Hugh Niswander was the man. How I am meeting those old classmates of mine.

Feb. 20, 1945—While in New York City to-day, I attended the wedding of Frances Musselman and Tom Perry. The preacher officiating was Rev. Nelson Basinger.

Feb. 27, 1945—While slumming today I crossed a railroad track and whom should I see but Ross Irwin as engineer of the train. Another sight for sore eyes was Garfield Griffith bumming his way along the tracks.

March 5, 1945—At the Colonial Theatre in Cleveland yesterday it was my pleasure to see Lucille Johnson, Marjorie Stratton, Marie Scoles, Eunice Moser and Ruby Dudgeon in the "Rainbow Chasers." A former acquaintance, Sherwood Diller, was ushering at this theatre.

March 16, 1945—While in Chippewa to-day I visited Marguerite Geiger, who is now the matron of the Old Maids' Institution. I was sorry to hear that Dorothy Henry and Rosella Montgomery were living out their days in this same home because of blighted love affairs. While attending a night club, I danced to the strains of Bixel's Bituminous



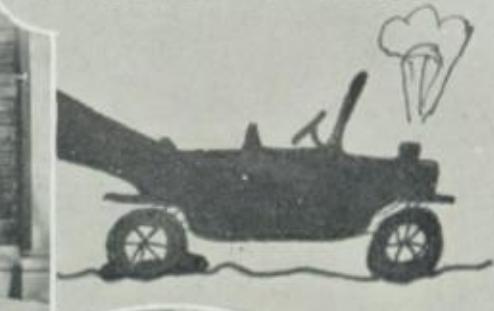
Lets Go Team



A Load of What?



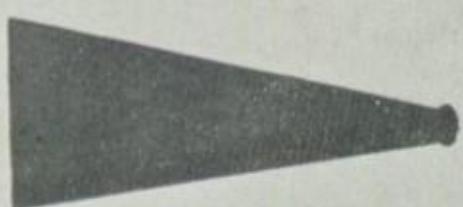
A Load of What?



Yea Pirates



Fight 'em Team



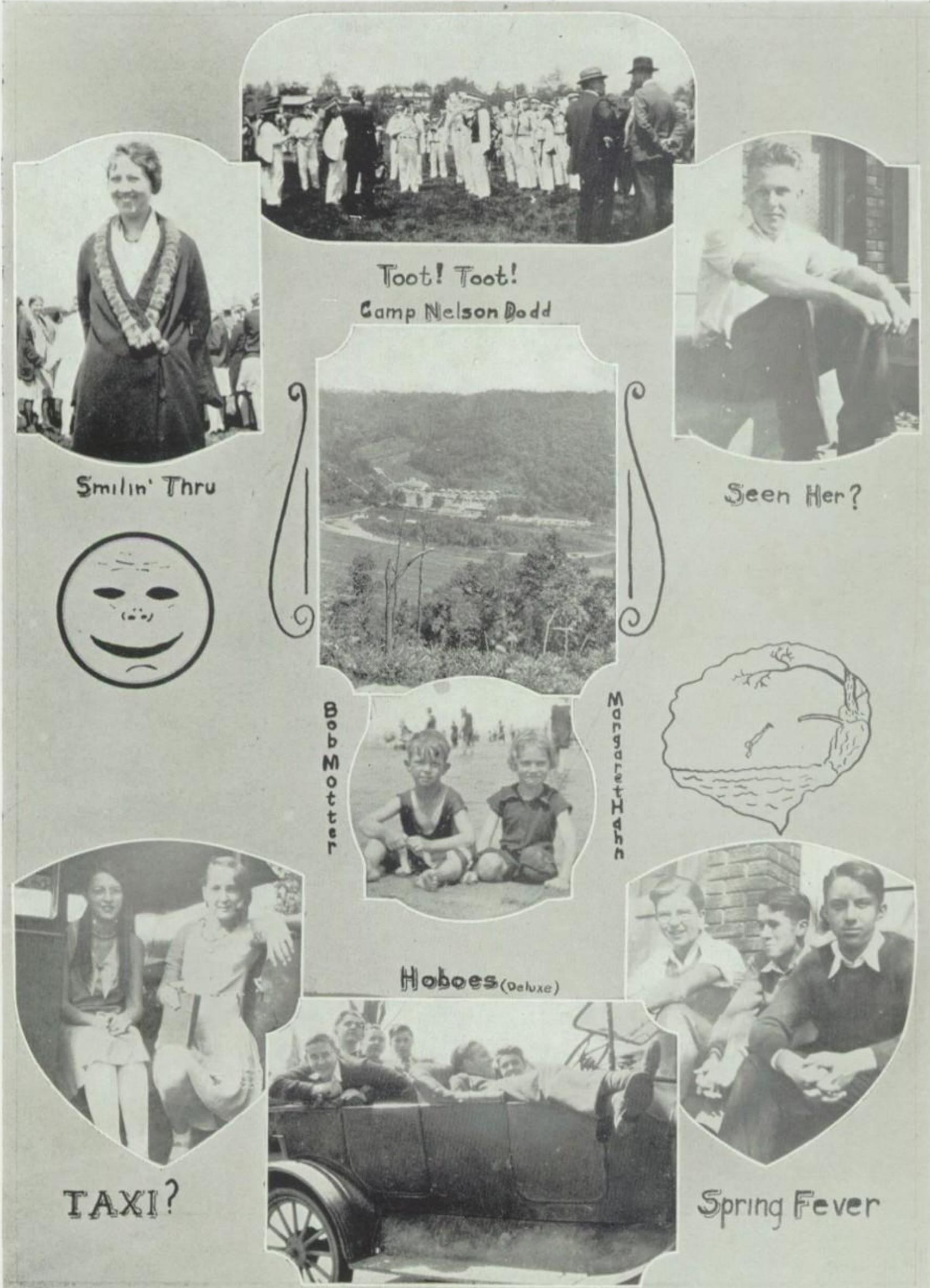
Give 'em the Ax

Yea-Team



Locomotive





Jeanette S. "I just love birds."
 Ross Irwin (shyly) "I've been told that I was a little cuckoo."

* * * * * * *

Jean Diller: "Did you see Francis Devier has a cookie duster."
 Mary King: "Yeah! that tickles me."

* * * * * * *

John Beagle: "What's the lump on the front of your car."
 Hugh N. "Oh, the radiator just had a boil."

* * * * * * *

Motor Cop (producing notebook): "What is the big idea of all this recklessness?
 Now first, what is your name?"

Recklessness plus: "Magdalene Badertscher Neuenschwander."

Cop (putting notebook away): "Well, don't let me catch you again."

* * * * * * *

Lost—One walking cane by gentleman with ivory head. Finder please return to
 Paul Schumacher.

* * * * * * *

At 3:30 A. M. the farmer roused Si Diller, his newly hired hand.

Said Si: "What's the matter?"

The boss: "It's time to go to work."

Si: "What doin'?"

The talkative farmer: "Reaping."

Inquisitive Si: "Reaping what?"

The farmer: "Oats."

Silas: "Are they wild?"

Farmer: "Sure not."

Bright Silas: "Well, if they ain't wild, what's the use of sneaking up on them in
 the dark?"

* * * * * * *

Biology Professor: "What is a good way to get rid of clothes moths?"

Violet Garmotter: "Take them out in the sun and beat them."

* * * * * * *

What would happen if—

Wilner Mumma forgot her comb?

Weldon Lightner quit laughing?

Paul Stauffer shaved off his mustache?

Bob Matter lost his voice?

Ruby Dudgeon was not so bossy?

Alma Shalley would loose her temper?

Roland Bixler could play the flute?

Marguerite Geiger was not in love?

Eleanor Niswander moved away from William?

Fern Stuart never smiled?

Andrew J. Robeson wasn't married?

Paul Hirschler made a "C"?

Gar Griffith lost his appetite?

Louise Benroth got an "A" in conduct?

Mr. Longsdorf lead cheers at a football game?

Mr. Stettler were married?

Dora Dillman were a preacher's daughter?

* * * * * * *

Odulla Lugibill: "I'd like to buy a shirt with a 14 collar and 34 sleeves."

Bob Balmer (the harassed clerk): "What's this for? A centipede?"

1931

1881 - "GOLDEN JUBILEE" - 1931

History of the Bluffton High School Alumni Association

By Maude Murray Boehmer, '84

Foreword

To write an interesting history one must necessarily have some authentic records; for, even tho' one is in Methuselah's class, you cannot be expected to remember everything.

Upon asking for the early records, I was informed they were accidentally burned several years ago. So my help along that line has been very meager indeed; and any inaccuracies which you may note, will be for want of knowledge on my part, with no inclination to overlook or slight anyone.

* * * * *

Father Time is here beside me
And he points with finger stern
At the chest which holds our school days
Bidding me the Key to turn.

So I take the Key of Memory
From the shelf of Day's-that's-been,
And I turn it backward slowly
As I meekly look at him.

Now I'm revelling in the contents
Which his years have placed inside
And in fancy see the school-mates
Who have journeyed by my side.

Hand in hand we'll make the journey
To the Land of Used-to-Be,
Where the early seeds were planted
For this "Golden Jubilee."

He, who did the initial planting,
Soon passed on to larger spheres
And tonight we see fruition
He had visioned thru the years.

On October 1st, 1877, the Board of Education of the Bluffton Special School District, authorized the establishment of a High School Grade with a three-year course of study.

This was the first High School in the Village of Bluffton and the course offered the following subjects: analysis, algebra, higher arithmetic, physical geography, rhetoric, history, geometry, natural philosophy, English Literature, Latin, physiology, political science and astronomy. Drill in elocution, theory and practice of teaching were also required during the course.

Now, those words, "drill in elocution" still have the power to cause a shiver of fear up and down my spine, as I recall the Fridays when we were required to step to the rostrum and "speak our piece" (which invariably we had neglected to prepare) and just what our particular class would have done, I can't surmise, had not Henry Wadsworth Longfellow written:

"The day is cold and dark and dreary
It rains, and the wind is never weary.
The vine still clings to the moldering wall
And at every gust the dead leaves fall;
And the day is dark and dreary."

As the "Kiddies" would say, "we took turn-about" reciting it and am sure wore it quite threadbare of interest.

In the spring of 1881, a beautiful ship appeared in the Bluffton harbor.

It had been in the making for three years, and the builder was careful to put into it everything of value necessary to make it majestic and seaworthy, for it had a wonderful mission—that of carrying its passengers every May-time to the Gateway of Life, where open roads to all parts of the world lay before them and where golden opportunities stood beckoning.

Along the side of this beautiful vessel in letters of gold, we read, "Alumni—Queen



"We" in 1922



Daughters of Pastor



One of the Griffiths



The Geigers



"ALDY"



What a Man!



posing? No.

of May," while floating from the spar, high and free is a banner marked "Bluffton Progress."

On the bridge we see Captain Patterson, while on deck stand his six passengers ready for the maiden voyage.

Wafted to us on the breeze comes the sweet voices of a choir singing, "O Praise the Mighty God;" then the sweet strains of "Moonlight on the Lake."

Now we are listening to comments from this interesting sextette and thru them you will be given the titles of the entire program of the first commencement:

Helen Barnes, standing at the bow with face uplifted says in her dramatic voice, "We are Leaving the Bay, the Ocean is Before Us."

"Earth's Battle Fields," as well, remarks Rolla Hickey.

Emma Lugabill reminds them it is, "Not for School but for Life We Learn" in our "Grand March to Sunset Land."

But Willis Hutchins is inclined to view it as, "The Book of Fate" and not caring to analyze further.

Lillie Clark decides to go on "Life's Journey" with Mr. Hutchins, regardless.

Standing nearby is dear little Minna Herrmann, who cautions the Pilot to beware of "False Lights," but he assures her there is no danger with a captain so staunch and true.

Anchor is weighed and they are off, with hearts "Happy and Light" in the realization that the launching had been a grand success.

Each year "Alumni" has returned to her home port, taking aboard new passengers in ever increasing numbers, but at heart she is the same Queen Mother and loves her increasing family dearly.

She is not only Mother but "Grand-mother" as well. Of course, you will want to know who her first granddaughter and grandson are, for every one is interested in the very first child.

Helen Kibler, of the class of 1909, was Queen Alumni's first grand-child. Her mother, Mrs. Ida Kibler graduated in 1884.

Aaron Murray of 1923, was the first grandson. His father, Horace Murray having entered the realm in 1886.

You may be interested in a few items from the ship's Log-book under command of the various captains.

We read:

"The second commencement was held in the old M. E. church which was crowded from the American flag which hung back of the pulpit to the bell rope that swung in the gallery.

Miss Emma Murray had the opening address; her subject being, "Elements of Success;" Miss Hettie Vernon followed with "Idleness a Thief;" B. S. Ferrall spoke on the "20th Century;" Miss Nettie Jackson took a trip on the "Ocean of Life," after which William Marr gave "The Progress of the Ages," as the valedictory.

The commencement was a complete success in every way and Captain Patterson is entitled to great credit for the conscientious work he is doing while in Bluffton."

After nine years' work he took the "Long, Long Trail" and the pilot wheel was given over to Captain U. M. Shappel, who very ably held command from 1887 to 1894: during which time I had the pleasure and privilege of working under his genial supervision.

I sincerely regret that lack of records make this sketch desultory; but am pleased to be able to give a complete list of the "captains" who each in his way, carried higher the banner, "Bluffton Progress."

Captain Shappell turned over the command to B. F. Biery, who ruled from 1884 to 1900: then E. C. Akerman from 1900 to 1906; C. A. Arganbright from 1906 to 1914; C. C. Nardin from 1914 to 1920; C. E. Bender from 1920 to 1925; A. J. B. Longsdorf from 1925 to the present time.

Many of the early alumni reunions were held in private residences. Through a letter received from Mrs. Lavina Hilty Marr you can easily visualize the meeting of 1883: in which she says:

"We met informally at the home of Prof. and Mrs. Patterson, whose fatherly and motherly interest in us all, has remained one of the pleasant outstanding memories of those years of long ago.

"The general routine at those early meetings was, first of course, business, which we took very seriously, you may be sure.

"The meeting would resolve itself into informalities.

"We gathered around the little reed cabinet parlor organ—and who does not recall the little parlor organ which always played a major role at those early meetings—and sang solos, duets, or all joined in the songfest.

"Youth, which was not satiated in those days, lent a glamour to little homely pastimes, in a day when there were no automobiles, no radios, no motion pictures, no airplanes, etc.

"At these meetings, Prof. Patterson if not presiding, loomed over all, with the fine, serene dignity befitting a great assemblage or convention.

"Our revered Mrs. Patterson climaxed the evening by serving cake and lemonade."

After this retrospection, Mrs. Marr says, "Although there will be many friends present whose memories are cherished and whom I would like to see once more, I do not expect I will be in Bluffton May 22nd, but assure you my thoughts will be with you all in making the 50th year, a truly glorious 'Golden Anniversary.'"

"The alumni meeting for 1885 was held at the A. G. Kibler home, at which time a plate lunch was served," writes J. D. Ewing of said class, and continues Dawson:

"I discovered at that time that I had a very poor lap, for I nearly dropped my plate."

The fifth reunion was held at the residence of W. B. Richards. The address of welcome to the class of 1886 was delivered by R. A. Hickey, and responded to by Miss Cora Miller.

Miss Helen Barnes then read a fine memorial on the death of Maggie Lambert, who was our classmate and the first graduate to leave the ranks for the School of the Master.

In 1908, quoting again from the Log-book, "The 28th annual meeting of the Bluffton High School Alumni Association was held in the large and pleasant Odd Fellows hall, under the auspices of the Patterson graduates.

"As the organization then numbered about 250 members, it was decided at the last annual meeting to divide the responsibility and honors of getting up the annual entertainment and arranging the program.

"By mutual consent the whole affair, including all the officers, was assigned to the pupils of S. C. Patterson.

"Covers were laid for 150, at tables artistically decorated in purple and gold, the 1908 class colors.

"After devoting over two hours to disposing of the banquet, Mrs. Ida Kibler, the presiding officer, called the happy assembly to order.

"Seated by her side was the honored guest of the evening, Mrs. S. C. Patterson.

"After a well rendered piano solo by Miss Helen Kibler and roll call by Miss Gertude Emison, the president read an excellent paper reviewing former school years and concluded by extending a very cordial welcome to the class of 1908. Miss Emma Woods, in behalf of her class, responded in well worded terms.

"At the request of the president Mrs. Patterson gave a talk in which she touchingly referred to the time when she resided in Bluffton, its many pleasant associations and her love for the place and its people.

"Papers paying a loving tribute to the memory of their departed Captain, were read by Miss Maggie Richards of Findlay, Mrs. Charity Frick of Bluffton, Mrs. Agatha Ostendorf of Delphos, and "yours truly" of Cleveland.

"Letters read from the absent members, showing the same devotion, came from Helen Barnes of Philadelphia, Pa.; B. S. Ferrall of Buffalo, N. Y.; Forrest Ferrall of Bloomfield, Iowa; Mrs. Wm. Marr of Chicago; F. M. Cooke of Akron; H. K. Eaton, Ocean City, N. J., and R. A. Hickey, Hammond, Ind. The singing of 'School Days' closed the literary program."

The Patterson graduates certainly deserved a great deal of credit for giving one of the very best alumni entertainments in the history of the organization. It will linger long and pleasantly in the memories of all who were privileged to attend.

One year later another similar reunion was held in the same hall; but the handsome invitations were monogrammed "S. B. G." reminding one that this year's entertainment was under the immediate auspices of the Shappell graduates.

"John Bixel of the class of 1888 was toastmaster; I. B. Beesly of 1893 gave the address of welcome, to which John Spangler of 1909 responded. H. O. Bentley of 1893 gave a talk on "Prospect and Retrospect."

"Sketches in memoriam, were read for Mrs. J. E. Ramseyer by Mrs. J. F. Risser; Frank Owens, by C. D. Althaus; J. S. Herr, by Noah Basinger; Morris Triplett, by Waldo Diller.

"A paper on "The New Teacher" written by S. S. Dunham was read by J. R. Nicholson owing to Mr. Dunham's absence. Mrs. J. T. Conway gave "Our History" wherein she showed that many of the Shappell graduates are actively engaged in positions of honor and trust.

"'Reminiscences' were given by Mrs. Blanche Hughson, then Captain Shappell gave them "Another Lesson" closing with "Auld Lang Syne."

"The tributes of respect and the hearty greeting accorded their chief was evidence that a warm feeling still exists between the former superintendent and his pupils.

"Those who had the evening's entertainment in charge are to be congratulated upon the manner in which the whole affair was conducted. More interest is manifested in the association each succeeding year.

"Next year the six classes which graduated under Captain B. F. Biery will have charge of the entertainment."

I am sure that all subsequent meetings have been quite as interesting as their predecessors, but I do not happen to have any records of them. However, they are of such recent dates, the proceedings are doubtless still fresh in your memory.

We want to take this opportunity of saying to the class of 1926 that had it not been for their "Annual Leaves" dropping into our lap as we needed them, this historical sketch would not have been possible, and I'm hoping that whoever is called upon to write the history of the next fifty years will find something quite as helpful.

Now a few words for the dear ones who are working out their life problems in a higher school.

Their presence lingers still about the room;
Their footsteps echo yet upon the floor;
Their cheery smile still brightens all the gloom
Though they have hurried out and shut the door.

And biding here below we can but pray
That blue and kindly skies above them bend
For whither they have journeyed we shall go
On to the Journey's end.

And even though they have gone from our mortal vision, the Love which each expressed is still shedding its rays about us in beautiful memories; for, being immortal, it cannot be stilled, and some day we will hear the welcome greeting,

"Oh, here we are together again, it seems only yesterday since we parted." Then will come the full realization of Christ's promise 'Because I live, ye shall live also.'

To the class of 1931 we would say: May a happy spirit of Kindness go with you all through the years. You will find it the "Open Sesame" to every heart. It will release the bonds of toil and put peace into the heart of the weary. As the years glide by all too swiftly, it will mellow the tart spirit of "Too Many Birthdays" by letting you enjoy the laughter and play of little children. We all join in saying "Bon Voyage."

As you sail out on Life's golden stream,
May the Pilot who guides and protects you,
Help you realize all of your dreams.

We cannot close this history without a tribute to the finest little village on earth; and regardless how far we may wander, she'll always be "HOME" to us, for she is:

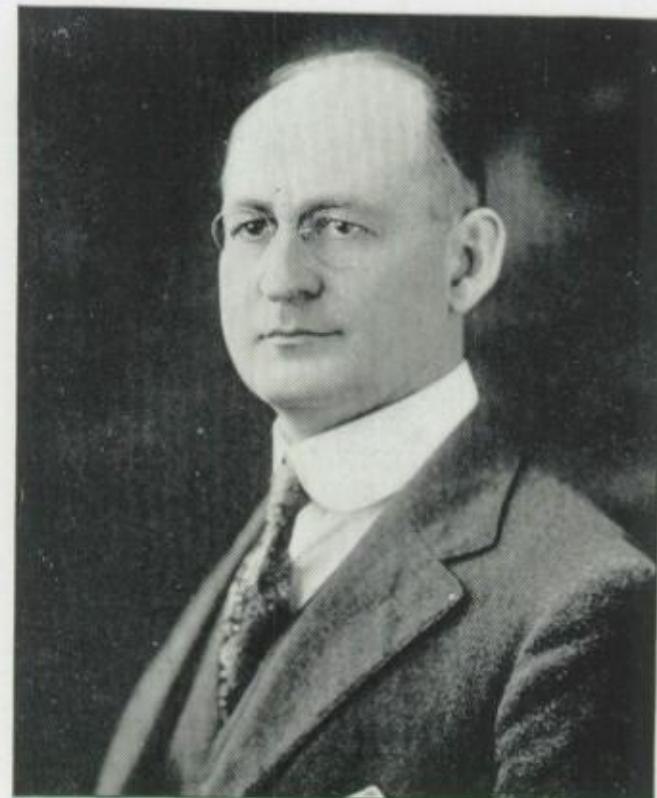
True as the blue of the larkspur,
Warm as the red of the rose,
White as the lily we'll keep her
As onward and upward she goes.

So, now we will close with Bluffton High's "yell" up-to-date:

One, two—We're all for you,
Three, four—Open the door,
Five, six—They've come in thick,
Seven, eight—Our town is great,
Nine, ten—Say it again.
Altogether now!

"OUR BLUFFTON!"

1931

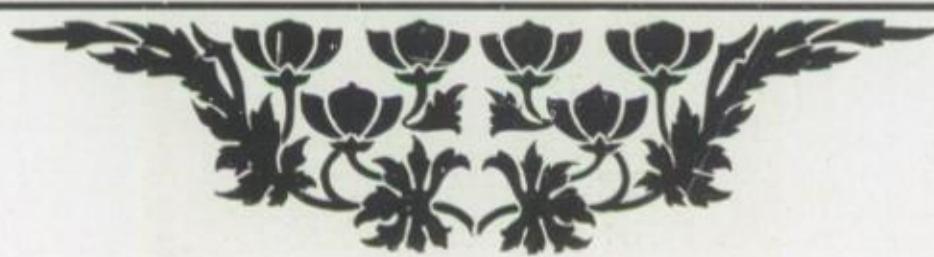


Mr. Wilhelm Amstutz

To Mr. Amstutz, 1931 President of the Bluffton High School Alumni Association goes the credit for the successful commemoration of our fiftieth anniversary at the Alumni Association Banquet, May 22, 1931.

1931

ADVERTISEMENTS





1931

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1931

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We keep the negatives on file and you may order one or more photographs at any time.

J. Nash Livingston

1931

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1931

Compliments to the

50th Anniversary Class

—from—

*The Store with the
Better Hardware*

JOHN FETT & SONS

Compliments of the

SOHIO BOYS

**Hirschfeld Electric
Shop**

Electrical Appliances of All Kinds
Repairing A Specialty
122 E. Elm Street Phone 421-W
Bluffton, Ohio

OUR FANCY CAKES

A complete dessert in
themselves . . . or equally
delicious with ices. Also
delicious Bread and Rolls.

H. SIEFIELD

Home of Everything Good
That's Baked.

Phone No. 115-W

Dr. Francis Basinger

Dr. Evan Basinger

DENTISTS

X-RAY

Bluffton, Ohio



Sidney's Drug Shop



—HEADQUARTERS FOR—

Drugs and Sundries
High School Text Books
Fountain Pens
All Other School Supplies

The  Store

1931

May this achievement
Be a stepping stone to larger accomplishments,
And our congratulations with many,
Be for your first step.

The Lape Co.

Bluffton's Exclusive Ladies Store

It pays to look well,
But it pays more
To have a Fine
Barber.

**PAT'S
BARBER SHOP**

Candy — Tobacco

Bluffton Distributors

HUDSON

and

ESSEX

AUTOMOBILES

All Kinds of Automobile
Repairing

U. S. Tires

STRATTON GARAGE

East Elm Street

1931



1931

THE COMMERCIAL BANK & SAVINGS COMPANY

"The Old Reliable Bank"

Has rendered forty-four years of satisfactory service to the community.

Students of the high school and their friends are invited to take advantage of our service. Open a Savings Account, or a checking account.

Compliments of

DR. J. S. STEINER

Citizens Bank Building

**REICHENBACH &
DILLER GARAGE**

TIRE

BATTERY

SERVICE

MOTOR

GENERAL

W. Elm St - Bluffton, Ohio

STAR THEATRE

"The Home of Good Shows"

ALL TALKIES

MODERN EQUIPMENT

Main St. - Bluffton, Ohio

**THE FARMERS
ELEVATOR CO.**

Beaverdam, Ohio

*"No Long Waits
No Short Weights"*

1931



The New Ford Car

THE NEW FORD IS DISTINCTLY A NEW AND MODERN CAR, DESIGNED TO MEET NEW AND MODERN CONDITIONS. IT IS MORE THAN A NEW AUTOMOBILE. IT IS THE ADVANCED EXPRESSION OF A WHOLLY NEW IDEA IN MODERN ECONOMICAL TRANSPORTATION.

THE DIXIE MOTOR Co.
HOME OF THE

BLUFFTON, OHIO.

1931

Bastian Bros. Co.

Official Jewelers

To Bluffton High School Classes

Large Club Emblem Catalog Free on Request

Bastian Bldg.

Rochester, N. Y.



Save Your Eyes

We Specialize in Orthogon
Soft-Lite Lenses.

D. C. BIXEL

D. C. BIXEL

This advertisement is framed in an ornate, classical-style border. At the top, a banner reads "Save Your Eyes". Below this is a large, detailed illustration of an eye with radiating lines. The text "We Specialize in Orthogon Soft-Lite Lenses." is centered in the middle of the frame. At the bottom, the name "D. C. BIXEL" is written in a large, bold, serif font. The entire advertisement is set against a white background within a decorative border.

1931

Community SILVERWARE

will enhance the attractiveness of your table.

A wide selection of correct designs.

Always acceptable as a gift.

L. T. GREDING Hardware

Estate Gas Ranges

Paints, Varnishes

WEEKLY PROGRAM

Monday—Repairing
Tuesday—Repairing & Pressing
Wednesday—Dry Cleaning
Thursday—Repairing & Pressing
Friday—Repairing & Pressing
Saturday—Repairing & Pressing

O. O. ALSPACH
TAILOR AND DRY CLEANER
Phone 302-W - 110 Vine St.

Economy

for Economical Transportation



Safety

STEINER
CHEVROLET
SALES

204-206 N. Main St. Phone 135-W
Automotive Repairing

and Accessories

Genuine Chevrolet Parts
Auto Wash, Polish
and Paint

Dependability

Comfort



Compliments of

EVERGREEN INN

WE SERVE FINE MEALS

CHICKEN DINNERS

Beaverdam, Ohio

City Transfer Line

Moving and
General Trucking

Phone 354-W

HOWARD STAGER

CHARLES HANKISH

Wholesale and Retail
Dealer in Foreign and
Domestic Fruits

High School Special

Nuts

Candies

Ice Cream

Soft Drinks

Tobacco and Cigars

YOURS FOR SERVICE

WESTERN OHIO RAILWAY & POWER CORPORATION

Mumma Electric Co.

Contractor—Dealer

Hotpoint Ranges
and Appliances

Phone 189-W - Bluffton, Ohio

Steinman Bros. Lumber Co.

RETAIL LUMBER DEALERS

Manufacturers of
PLANING MILL PRODUCTS

Bluffton

Jenera

1931

RICHMAN BROTHERS CLOTHES

More Style

\$22.50

More Quality

"Clothes for All Occasions"

RICHMAN BROTHERS CO.

232 North Main Street

Lima, O.

Beaverdam Cement Block Co.

Dealer in

Cement, Lime, Plaster,
Building Blocks

C. D. Kogler, Prop.

ALL-ROCK Miniature GOLF COURSE

269 Lawn Avenue

Bluffton, Ohio

PINE LUNCH

Dinners - Lunches

When It's Eats You Want
We Hit The Spot.

Prompt Service - Good Food
Reasonable Rates

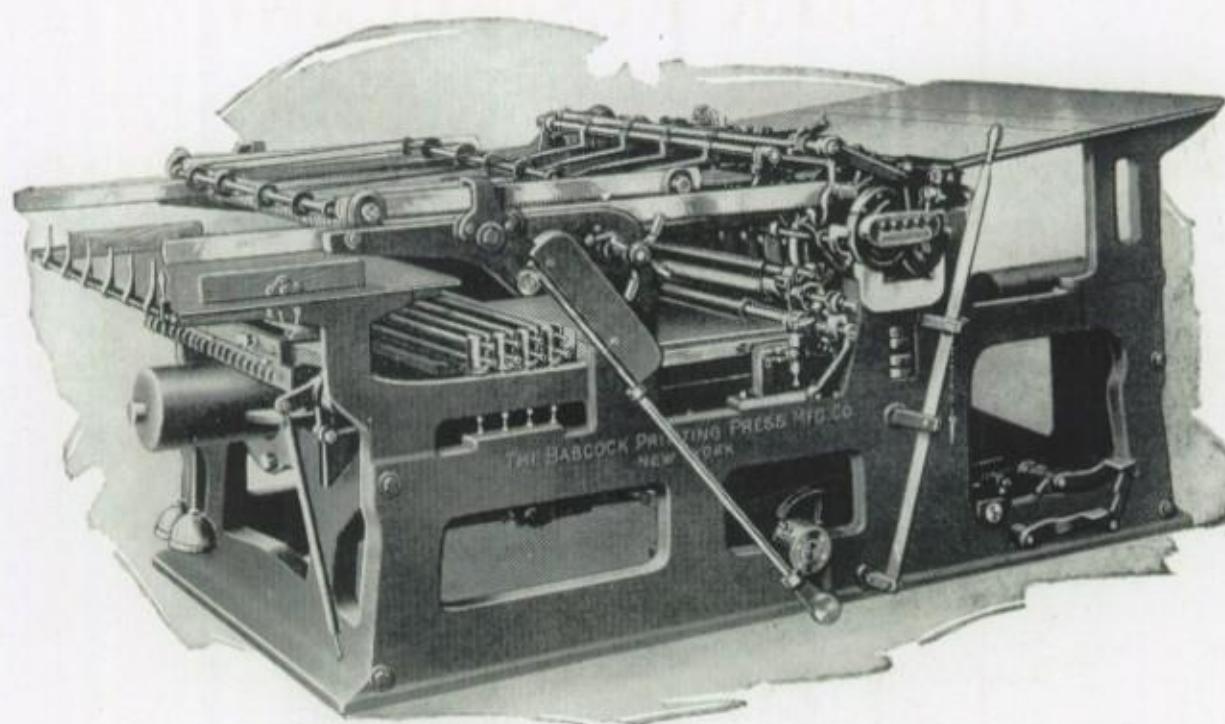
Candy - Tobacco
Cigars

North Main St. - Bluffton

When in Findlay Eat at Pines
—next to Interurban Station.

1931

1931



THIS ANNUAL COMES
FROM THE PRESS OF

The Bluffton News

"The House of Fine Printing"

High School and College Annuals A Specialty

Bluffton, Ohio

THE ELK RESTAURANT

Better Meals

Short Orders

Special Chicken Dinners Tuesday & Sunday

WE SERVE GRAHAM'S ICE CREAM,

That Cream which the Whole Family Likes,

In All Sodas and Sundaes.

FRENUS HERRMAN, Prop.

For best values in Auto-
mobile & Life Insurance

SEE

D. W. BIXLER

Commercial Bank Bldg.

**LIMA BUSINESS
COLLEGE**

ACCOUNTING, SECRETARIAL
STENOTYPE AND SHORT-
HAND COURSES.

210 N. ELIZABETH ST.
LIMA, OHIO MAIN 3320

“Best-Yet” Ohio Accred-
ited Chicks are produced
and sold by

**THE BLUFFTON
HATCHERY CO.**

Bluffton, Ohio

Compliments of

Dr. R. L. Biedermann

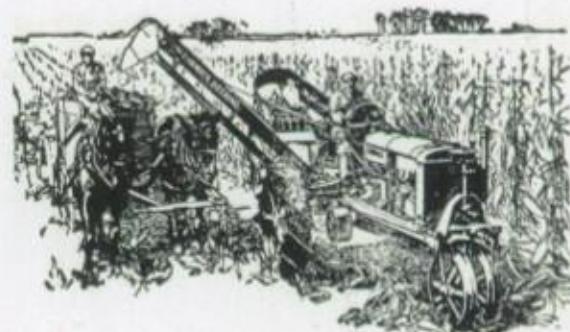
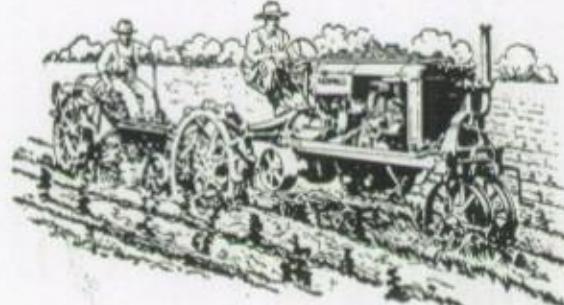
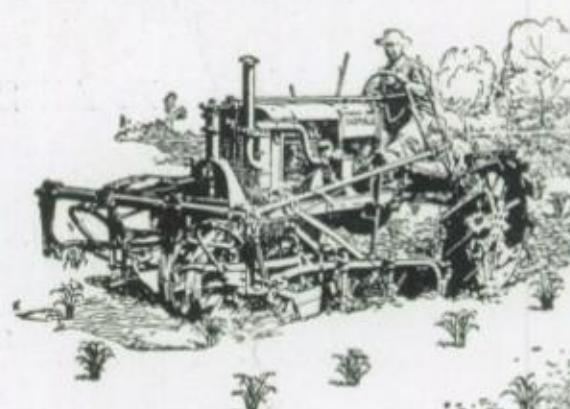
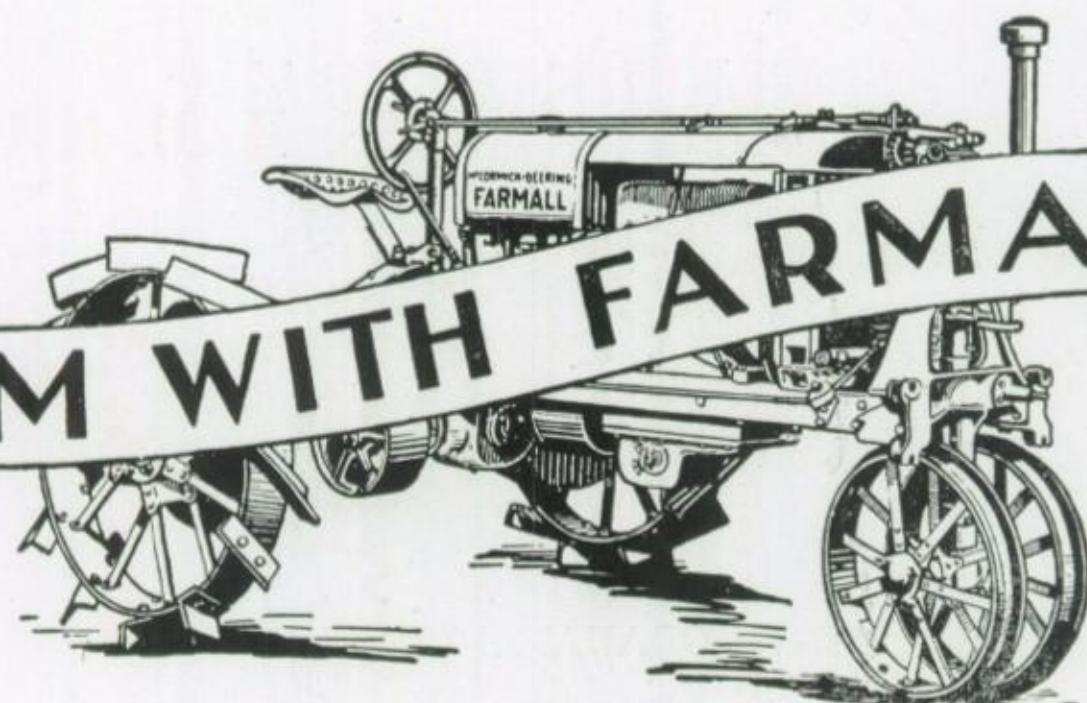
438 S. Main Street

Office Hours:

2-4 P. M.
7-8 P. M.

1931

FARM WITH FARMALLS



C. F. NISWANDER

McCormick-Deering Dealer

1931

For Any Crushed
Stone You Need,
Be Sure To See

THE
BLUFFTON STONE
COMPANY

Phone 142-W

O - K - GRILL

"The Pirate Den"

Ice Cream - Pie
Cold Drinks
Candy - Sandwiches

128 South Main Street
Bluffton, Ohio

MRS. M. M. KIBLER

"The Woman's Shop"

Millinery

Hosiery

Underwear

Bluffton, Ohio

Best Wishes

—from—

The B. F. REPP CO.

Better Brands Athletic Equipment
215 N. Elizabeth Street,
Lima, Ohio

Compliments of

**MUNSON R. BIXEL,
M. D.**

1931

COMPLIMENTS
OF
A FRIEND

LOCAL & LONG
DISTANCE
HAULING

GENERAL HAULING

We Also Use a
Dump Truck.

ROSS TRIPLEHORN

Bluffton, Ohio

ALMA MATER

Three hundred strong, we sing a song
Of Bluffton High today,
Oh worthy art thou of praise!
When in the fray at the close of day
Another team we'll see our cry victory we'll raise,
Our cry victory we'll raise.
Bluffton High School,
Bluffton High School,
Hail to thee! hail to thee!
Bluffton High School!
Oh Bluffton High forever
To us art ever dear;
We hail thy works and pleasures,
Thy name we love to hear,
To thee we will be loyal,
To thee we will be true,
Oh Bluffton High forever
We sing all hail to you.

Guide: "That is a skyscraper."

Louise (on her first visit to New York): "Oh, I'd just love to see it work."

*** * *** * ***

We read of Dora, who was so dumb she thought the store was closed because the sign said, "Home Baking."

*** * *** * ***

Young College Lad—"When I dance with you I feel as though I were treading on clouds."

Dorothy Rae—"Don't kid yourself, those are my feet."

*** * *** * ***

Mr. King (dining at the O. K. Grill): "There's a piece of rubber tire in my hash."

Evelyn: "There's no doubt about that. The motor is displacing the horse nearly everywhere."

*** * *** * ***

RIGHT OR WRONG

A soldier lost his arm in the war, so his right arm was left. His left arm was not left since it was cut off and his left arm was right. If he had lost his right arm instead of his left, his left arm would have been left instead of his right, but that was not right for his right arm was left and not his left.

*** * *** * ***

Miss Lapp: "How is it that you have only written ten lines on "Milk" while the others have written pages?"

Ford Henry: "But you see, I wrote on "Condensed Milk."

*** * *** * ***

Miss Enders: "How would you punctuate this sentence: 'A pretty girl, walking down the street, turned the corner just as I saw her?'"

Harold Bell: "I would make a dash after her."

*** * *** * ***

Inquiring Freshman: "When was electricity first mentioned in the Bible?"

Sherry: "When Noah saw the ark light on the mountain."

*** * *** * ***

Mr. King: "James, which would you prefer being, a chauffeur or a jockey?"

Jimmie Morrison: "I'd prefer being a chauffeur to being a jockey because a jockey sees only the horses neck, while a chauffeur sees everybody neck."

*** * *** * ***

A SHORT STORY

Mule in a barnyard, lazy and sick,
Boy with a pin on the end of a stick,
Boy jabbed the mule; mule gave a lurch,
Services Monday at the M. E. Church.

*** * *** * ***

Teacher: "What makes you think that Atlas was a bad man?"

Clair Herr: "Well the book says that he held up the whole world."

*** * *** * ***

A group of upperclassmen were discussing where they expected to go to get their A. B. Degree. Finally someone asked Jane Miller where she expected to get her A. B. But before she could answer, Reed Hilty piped up, and said, "Why, didn't you know that she has her A. B.?"

(Editor's Note—I had to hear it three times myself before I caught on to that one, so don't be discouraged. Remember, Arden Baker is an A. B.)

*** * *** * ***

Nancy Ruhl: "These gloves are too small for me."

Charlie Hartzler: "Well, didn't you say that you wanted kid gloves?"

*** * *** * ***

Eleanor Worthington—"Love is blind, but the neighbors aren't."

1931

Paul Schumacher
"Shucky" "32"

Donald E. Swink
"Jerry" "33 B.C."



FINIS

The Gang.

